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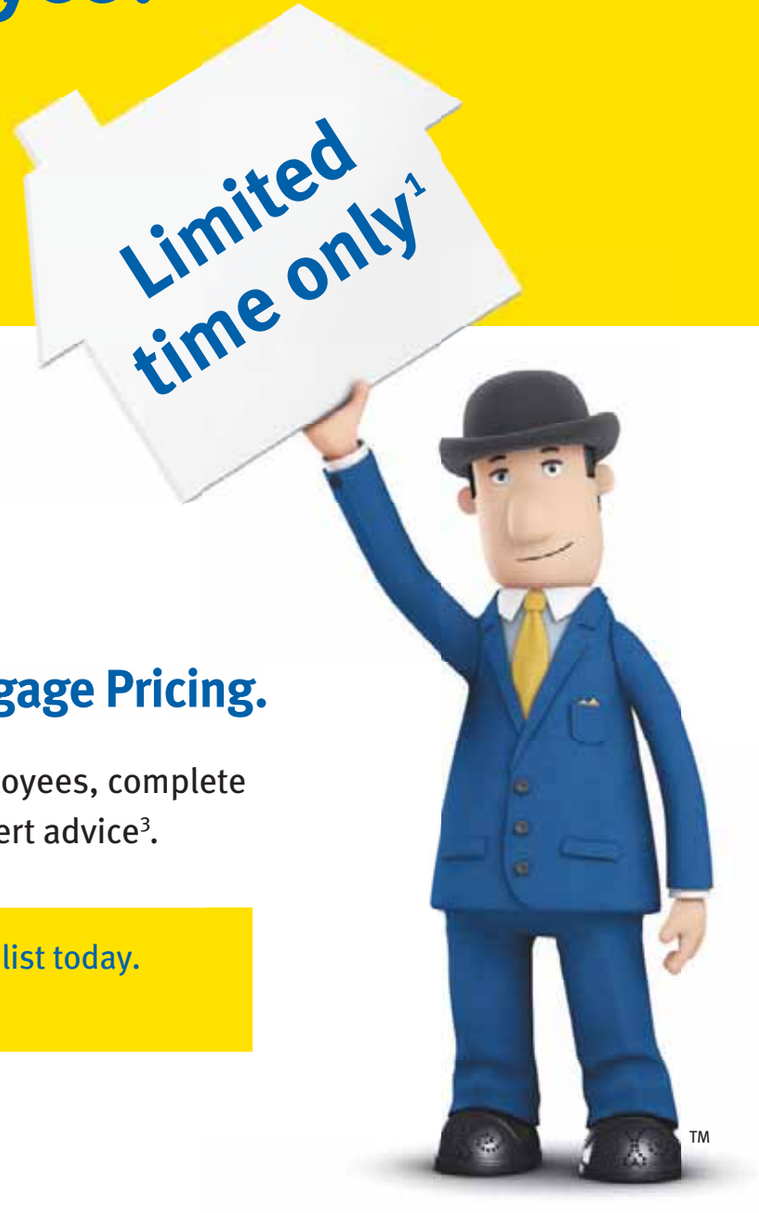

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NEWS WORTH SHARING.

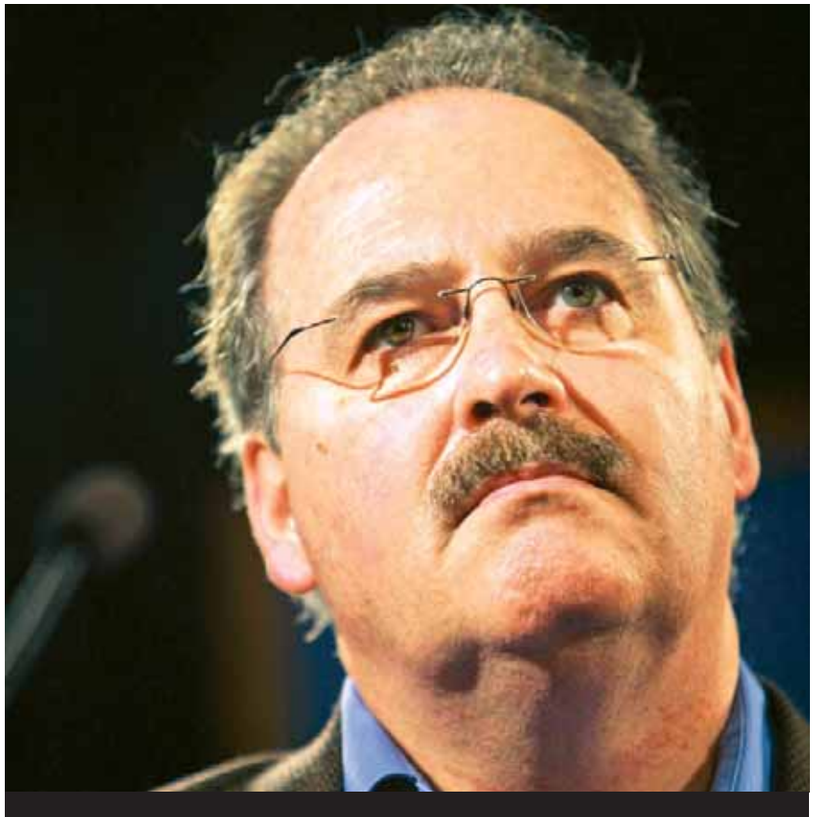
MISSION TO MARS

PART 1 OF OUR FEATURE ON A HUMAN VOYAGE EXPLORES HOW WE'LL GET TO THE RED PLANET

PAGES 12 & 13

Sterling/Silver resists tarnish

NBA chief bans L.A. Clippers owner for life. Use Metro AR to hear the fateful conversation PAGE 15



PASSING THE REINS

Alberta NDP Leader Brian Mason has announced he will step down in October, saying a new leader would be best to take the party to the next level. Story, page 8. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Father pleads guilty in the Baby M case

Emaciated twins. No reasons given for the children's treatment, though man admits he knew of their suffering

The two-year-old twin girls were the size of six-month-old babies.

When paramedics were called to the Edmonton townhouse in 2012, court heard, they were looking for a sick toddler and became confused when they could only find two wee ones bundled into infant car seats.

Then they looked more closely: Skin was hanging loose on their pale little bodies, their ribs stuck out from their chests and they were covered in scabs and bruises.

One of them, known in court only as M, wasn't breathing. After months on life support in hospital and a fierce court battle, doctors took her off the machines and she died.

On Tuesday, her father pleaded guilty to manslaughter for his role in M's death. The man also pleaded guilty to aggravated assault of the surviving twin and failing to provide the necessities of life.

The 36-year-old mumbled his pleas then sat with his arms crossed.

The Crown and defence have not yet settled on a recommended sentence.

The girls' mother still faces several charges, including second-degree murder. She's pleaded not guilty, and court heard her husband's admissions do not apply to her culpability.

The surviving girl, as well as a healthy older brother, were placed in foster care after their parents were arrested nearly two years ago.

The father admitted that while he didn't physically hurt the twins, he knew they were suffering.

He "continued to leave the twins unprotected in an abusive unsafe environment wherein the twins continued to be physically abused and deprived of the necessaries of life," one document reads.

There were no reasons given in court Tuesday as to why the twins were treated in such a way. More details are expected at the father's sentencing hearing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NE044G214

7-6 vote. Scona speed limit stays put

In a divided vote, city councillors put the brakes on a move to increase the speed limit on Scona Road Tuesday.

Councillors voted 7-6 against a proposal to raise the limit on the section from Saskatchewan Drive to the Low Level Bridge, which Coun. Bryan Anderson advocated.

Anderson told councillors that the speed limit was too low and that it made it difficult for him to defend photo radar to constituents.

"When they bring up Scona Road and the inappropriate speed limit I am tongue-tied," he said. "The citizen wins the argument about it being a cash grab."

The city's transportation department has admitted recent construction changes have made it safe to raise the limit to 60 km/h, but the community living south of Saskatchewan Drive, where the road turns into 99 Street, are worried people will continue at that speed into their neighbourhood.

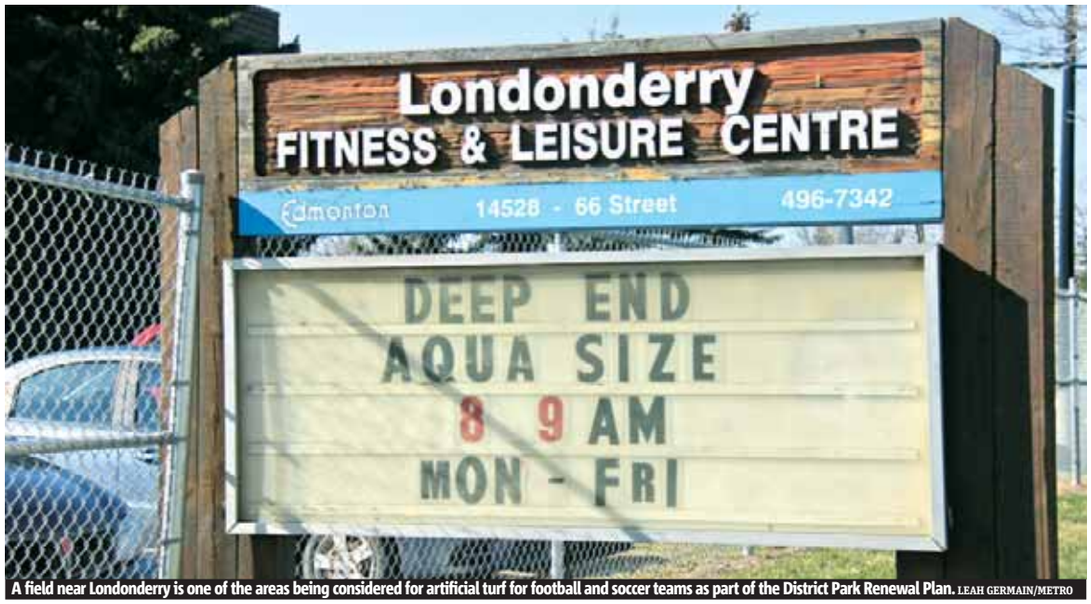
Mayor Don Iveson, who voted against the motion, said this one piece of road shouldn't be seen as part of the broader debate about photo radar, traffic safety and speed limits.

"This thing has just been blown way out of proportion," he said.

Iveson said the councillors who wanted the higher limit were simply hoping people would slow down before going through the neighbourhood.

"That's a huge assumption that the argument for changing the speed limit rests on. One that I am not prepared to make today," he said.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO



A field near Londonderry is one of the areas being considered for artificial turf for football and soccer teams as part of the District Park Renewal Plan. LEAH GERMAIN/METRO

Pseudo-pitch proposed for city playing fields

Play on. Big demand for weather-resistant turf

LEAH GERMAIN
leah.germain@metronews.ca

Rain delays could be a thing of the past as the city looks to add more fake turf to local sporting facilities.

As city planners work to develop a new artificial turf strategy, project co-ordinator Gerald Chung said there has been a huge demand from local sporting teams for more artificial turf facilities.

"We see a desire to use artificial turf because it's a consistent surface that's non weather-dependent," he said.

Chung estimates that a regular grass field can only have 250 hours of use a year in order to maintain playing quality, while artificial turf could see upwards of 2,000 hours.

"They're not maintenance-free, but you're not watering them, mowing them, using pesticides on them," Chung said.

One of the parks being considered under the District Park Renewal Plan for new turf is Londonderry.

Plans for the 18-hectare park near 66 Street and 144 Avenue between M.E. LaZerte High School and Londonderry Junior High could include removing a ball diamond and adding new artificial turf and a larger parking lot.

At a glance

Artificial Turf Strategy was first approved in 2007 and developed in consultation with sporting user groups.

- Edmonton already has artificial turf in Mill Woods and Jasper Bowl

Mario Charpentier, president of the Edmonton Minor Soccer Association, said artificial turf would be a welcome addition to soccer fields throughout the city.

"With the weather we have in Edmonton, artificial turf could be a solution," he said.

Since Edmonton fields are constantly used between youth and adult leagues, Charpentier said the association has seen a lot of wear and tear on the natural turf.

"With artificial turf, you don't have that problem," he added. "You can play one game after the other and not wreck the field."

While some research suggests artificial turf could lead to increased risk of non-contact injuries, Chung said the city adheres to a certain certification to ensure proper shock absorption for players.

While the city could not confirm the cost benefit of installing artificial turf, Chung said he expected a thorough breakdown this summer.

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Bridge crews ready to light up the night on Canada Day

Bridge with a view. Project reaches halfway mark

RYAN TUMILTY
ryan.tumilty@metronews.ca

Since he started working on the High Level Bridge, Trevor Samchuk has had a pretty good view, but now he's keen to look at the bridge from a different angle.

Samchuk said when his work on the High Level Bridge light-up project is done, the whole family is going to take in the big moment.

"We are all going to come down for Canada Day to see the lights turned on," he said.

Samchuk said his family has been very excited about the project.

"My dad tells a lot of people that, 'My son is doing the bridge,'" he said.

No stranger to heights, Samchuk said the work on the High Level isn't unlike other work his company, Summit Swing Stage, has done.

Before this, he said their last assignment was on ATB Place, so heights are nothing new. "For me it's not that high," he said.

EPCOR project manager David Hoeksema also plans to have his kids attend the grand reveal.

"The idea of being able to bring my kids here at night and show them the lights, with everything running, and say I was a part of this, is going to be great," he said.

Hoeksema said the project is on schedule for a Canada Day launch, which he credits to the crews from Summit.

Last week, crews switched sides of the bridge, marking essentially the halfway point of the project. In the weeks ahead, Hoeksema said they hope to start testing and people may see the lights coming on briefly.

By hiding the lights and other elements, they hope to keep the character of the old bridge, so it appears lit rather than covered in lights.

David Hoeksema with EPCOR and Trevor Samchuk with Summit Swing Stage stand at the base of the High Level Bridge. The lights on the bridge will be officially turned on July 1. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

AHS officially declares measles outbreak

After several weeks of isolated measles cases, Alberta Health Services is officially declaring an outbreak of the disease in the Calgary, Edmonton and Central Alberta zones.

The outbreak means AHS will now be offering an additional dose of the measles vaccine to children between six and 12 months old. Children ordinarily get two doses of the vaccine, with the first shot after they turn one year old and the second happening sometime between the ages of four and six.

In addition to offering the additional early vaccine, AHS is also advising parents to get their child's second regular vaccination as soon as possible if they are attending schools or daycare centres.

Vaccines are available through public health centres and AHS spokesperson Tahneen Luedee, said they're working on expanded clinic hours and other possibilities.

"We're increasing capacity at the moment, but what that looks like we'll have to see in the coming days," she said.

Luedee said it would depend on the amount of demand from the public, as well as the resources AHS can muster.

AHS is also encouraging adults to make sure they received both of their vaccines as children.

The province has seen a host of measles cases in Alberta over the last few weeks with cases emerging in schools in Calgary and Red Deer as well as exposures in malls, medical clinics and the Edmonton International Airport. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

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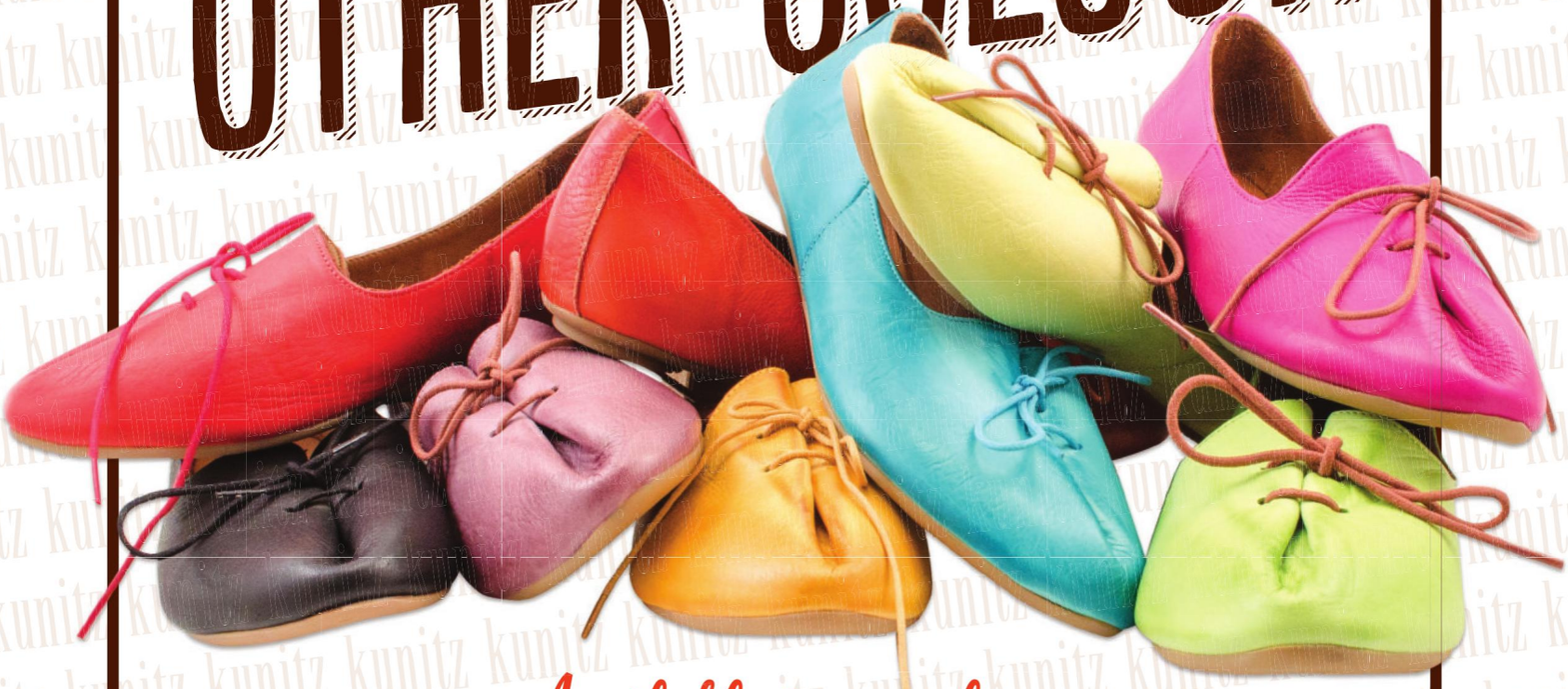

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Liam Wagner, 12, stands near where his $600 BMX bicycle should have been. He believes the bike was stolen out of the garage, located in the Griesbach neighbourhood, sometime within the last week. STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO

Edmontonians voice concerns over bike thefts

Prevention. Police to hold bike lock-up awareness event

STEPHANIE DUBOIS
stephanie.dubois@metronews.ca

Tween Liam Wagner saved up for six months and was anxiously counting down the days until he could take a spin on his new $600 BMX.

But when he opened the garage door to test-drive his new yellow ride near his family's Griesbach home on Monday, he was shocked to find his new toy gone.

"I was annoyed, upset. I don't know why someone would do it," he said.

Liam's mother said the circumstances around the bike theft are unknown since her 12-year-old son's bike was inside a locked, detached garage surrounded by an enclosed yard.

"It's just unfortunate. It's one thing to steal a bike but it's another to steal a bike from a kid," said Tara Wagner.

The Wagners are not alone.

Kate Redfern, who lives in the west end, had her $1,200 bicycle stolen from a locked parkade, despite it also being chained to security bars. Redfern said two other bikes along with some bottles and cans were allegedly also stolen from the parkade.

"It really makes me feel suspicious and paranoid because it happened in a locked garage," she said.

On April 22, Edmonton Bicycle Commuters' Society staff posted on their Facebook page that they had heard of "too many" bike thefts happening in the Old Strathcona or "campus" area over the last few weeks.

Edmonton police spokesperson Scott Pattison said there has been only one police report filed for a stolen bike at south-side divisions in the last week.

According to Pattison, police will be holding an awareness event on May 8 to remind people to lock up their bicycles.

Theft

Individuals who had their bike stolen can contact EPS at 780-421-2158 with a detailed description of their bicycle to see if it was recovered and is now part of their inventory, according to the EPS website.

Fatal shooting. Police confirm city's 10th murder of 2014

A police van is parked next to a west Edmonton apartment building where a man was shot and killed Saturday. LEAH GERMAIN/METRO

Edmonton police have confirmed Saturday's fatal shooting as a homicide, following an autopsy on the 38-year-old victim Monday afternoon.

Michael Alan Hill died from a gunshot wound Saturday after a shooting at a west-end apartment building.

A spokesperson from EPS said homicide detectives are continuing their investigation into the death and no charges have been laid at this time.

Police responded to the apartment building near 89 Avenue and 149 Street Saturday around 4 p.m. to discover Hill deceased. While EMS were called and tried to resuscitate him, Hill was confirmed dead on scene.

Hill's death marks the city's 10th homicide of 2014.

EPS is asking anyone with information on the case to call Edmonton Police Service at 780-423-4567 or #377 on a mobile phone.

LEAH GERMAIN/METRO

Trapped. Woman rescued after river valley fall

Rescuers needed a police helicopter spotlight and thermal imaging sensors to find a semi-conscious and hypothermic woman who had become trapped between two logs after falling down an Edmonton river bank.

More than two dozen emergency personnel combined in the Monday night darkness to help save the young woman, who was found along the edge of the North Saskatchewan River.

Police say she had been with a group at a fire pit in a central-area park when she wandered away.

It was two hours before her friends noticed she was missing and called for help.

A fire department technical rescue team worked with paramedics to pull the woman up the riverbank using a basket stretcher.

She was taken to hospital for an assessment, but police say she won't have any lasting injuries.

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Alberta NDP Leader Brian Mason speaks to reporters at the legislature Tuesday after announcing he will be stepping down. The party will choose a replacement in October. DEAN BENNETT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP leader Brian Mason bows out

Resignation. NDP to select new leader in October

Alberta NDP Leader Brian Mason has announced he is stepping down so a fresh face can use a window of opportunity to capture progressive voters.

"The party is ready for prime time and I just think it needs a different leader to get it to the next level," the five-term Edmonton member of the legislature said at a hastily called news conference Tuesday.

Quoted

"The party is ready for prime time and I just think it needs a different leader to get it to the next level."

NDP leader Brian Mason

"We need to … go beyond our traditional supporters so that there is a strong and very effective group of MLAs in the next legislature, after the next election, that will stand up to the Wildrose and possibly to the PCs as well."

Mason said he will resign as head of the party effective Oct. 19. That same weekend party faithful are to meet to pick a replacement.

He indicated he will stay on as an MLA for Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood and is likely to run again in the 2016 election.

Mason, 60, said there was no one thing that prompted his decision; it was something he'd been mulling for a while.

He suggested Alberta is at a crossroads politically as the right-of-centre Wildrose party presents a formidable challenge to the governing fellow right-centre Progressive Conservatives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Exposed genitals

St. Albert RCMP investigating exposure incident

St. Albert RCMP officers are investigating after a man was spotted with his genitals exposed on Monday afternoon. The man didn't approach anyone, but he was seen by at least one junior high student at a bench near the Shell station on Fairview Boulevard, between 3 and 3:30 p.m., according to police.

Anyone with more information is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or the St. Albert RCMP at 780-458-7700.

METRO

Politics. Hughes says no coronation for Prentice in Tory leadership race

The only declared candidate so far in the Alberta Tory leadership race says there'll be no coronation if former federal cabinet minister Jim Prentice decides to run.

"I know that that (coronation idea) is a very strongly held view amongst some people who have other interests, and I think that would be a disaster for the province of Alberta," Ken Hughes said in an interview Tuesday.

Hughes said politics — and political parties — benefit from races between strong candidates.

Jim Prentice
THE CANADIAN PRESS

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian pleads for husband's release

Man held in Egypt.
Health of former Morsi aide failing after 300 days

A Canadian woman is pleading for federal help to convince Egypt to release her husband from captivity in a Cairo jail.

Sarah Attia says the health of her husband, Khaled Al-Qazzaz, is deteriorating.

Attia says she's growing more worried about his fate after word this week that more than 680 people with ties to ousted president Mohammed Morsi were added to a list of those facing death sentences.

Al-Qazzaz is a former aide to Morsi and a Canadian permanent resident.

He was arrested along with Morsi and eight other presidential aides early in July of last year when the Egyptian military removed Morsi from office.

Sarah Attia, wife of Khaled Al-Qazzaz.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

While Al-Qazzaz has yet to be charged with any offence, Monday marked 300 days since his arrest.

Attia, who was born in Canada, was scheduled to meet Tuesday with Mississauga MP Stella Ambler.

Attia and Al-Qazzaz have four children ranging in age from one-and-a-half to eight years old. The two met while studying at the University of Toronto and moved to Egypt in 2005 to launch an educational project.

Al-Qazzaz campaigned for Morsi following the 2011 Egyptian uprising and was later appointed the former president's secretary on foreign relations.

"There is an increased concern that, any moment now, Khaled may witness trumped-up charges and, like others, face a death sentence as well," Attia told an Ottawa news conference.

She said she's aware that Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird recently raised Al-Qazzaz's case with the new Egyptian regime, but has no details of the discussions.

Two weeks ago Attia said she was planning to return to Cairo after raising awareness about her husband's plight.

But now she fears that she, too, could be arrested if she goes back, because media reports in Cairo have suggested she is paying reporters in Canada to promote sympathy for her case. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Court of appeal

Khadr's status before court

Former Guantanamo Bay detainee Omar Khadr turns to Alberta's top court Wednesday in hopes of having his eight-year prison term recognized as a youth rather than an adult sentence.

At issue before Alberta's Court of Appeal is whether Correctional Service of Canada has correctly interpreted the sentence handed down by an American military commission in 2010 after Khadr pleaded guilty to five war crimes he committed as a 15-year-old.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

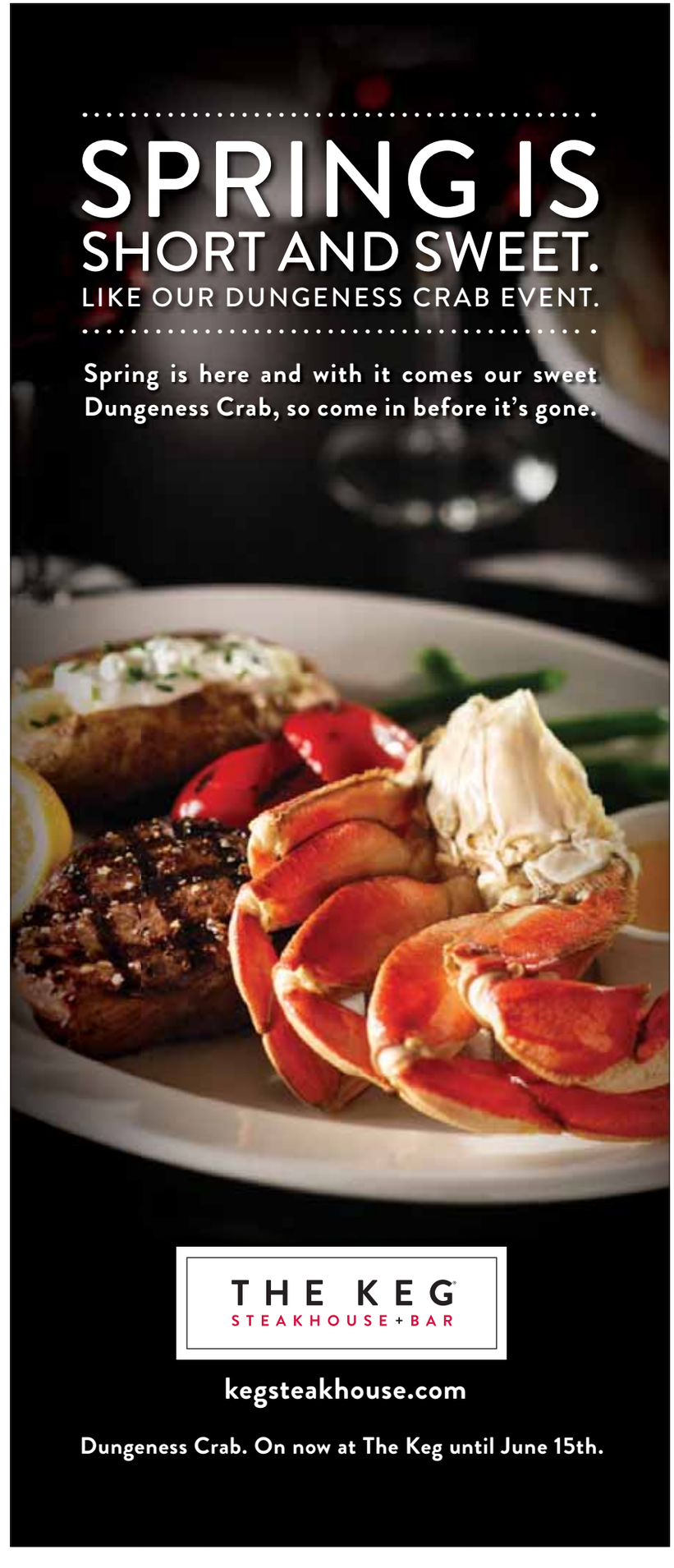
Toronto

Feds label aid group terrorists

A Canadian organization, the International Relief Fund for the Afflicted and Needy, that provided humanitarian aid to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza has been formally branded a terrorist group before the start of a court battle over the revocation of its charitable status.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Price tag for jets could soar

An F-35 is seen during the Joint Services Open House and Air Show in 2008 at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland. A new report by two think-tanks says the operating costs of Canada's proposed new stealth fighter could be considerably higher than what the Harper government is acknowledging — or perhaps even expecting.
BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES



Insurgents raise tensions in Ukraine

A key move. Protesters demanding regional authority seize government building in Luhansk

Pro-Russian activists storm an administration building in Luhansk Tuesday, one of the largest cities in Ukraine's troubled east. ALEXANDER ZEMLIANICHENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protesters demanding more power for Ukraine's regions stormed the government building in Luhansk with baseball bats Tuesday, seizing control of a key site in one of the largest cities in Ukraine's troubled east.

The move further raises tensions in the east, where insurgents have seized city halls, police stations and other government buildings in at least 10 cities and towns.

The demonstrators who overran the building are seeking — at the very least — a referendum on granting greater authority to Ukraine's regions.

Eastern Ukraine, which has a large Russian-speaking population, was the heartland of support for Viktor Yanukovych, the president who fled to Russia in February. The government that replaced him in Kyiv has resisted those demands so far, fearing they could lead to a breakup of the country or mean that more regions — like Crimea — are annexed by Russia.

The storming came as 1,000 demonstrators gathered in front of the building. About 150 people, some masked and wielding baseball bats, broke out of the crowd and charged into the building, meeting with no resistance. Later protesters formed a corridor for police who had been inside the building to leave.

In Kyiv, Ukraine's parliament on Tuesday discussed the possibility of holding a national referendum on whether the country should remain united or become a loose federation that allows the regions more powers. However, nothing close to a consensus was reached.

Ukraine is already holding a new presidential election on May 25.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ukraine election

Canadian gov't hires new agencies to organize election observers

The Harper government has hired two agencies with relatively little experience in elections monitoring to organize hundreds of Canadian observers for next month's Ukrainian election. The government has hired the Forum of Federations and CUSO International to replace its longtime Ukraine election partner, the non-governmental organization Canadem. Veteran election observers, as well as Canadem, were caught off-guard by the announcement last week.

The project will see 338 bilateral, short-term Canadian observers sent to the May 25 vote in Ukraine.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Commander outs Russian involvement on TV show

A Ukrainian journalist shows a photograph of Igor Strelkov, the mysterious commander of pro-Russian militias in Slovyansk, to his supposed neighbours in Moscow, Russia on Tuesday. IVAN SEKRETAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When shadowy commander Igor Strelkov appeared before the cameras recently, he did more than reveal the face of the insurgency rocking eastern Ukraine. He strengthened the case that Russia is behind the turmoil.

The commander did not address Ukraine and European Union assertions that he is a Russian intelligence officer.

But he told journalists that he and his men entered Ukraine from Crimea, which Russia annexed in March after an insurgency that Russian President Vladimir Putin now admits involved Russian troops.

Strelkov's assertion that many of the insurgents are not locals undermines rebel claims that the insurgency is a spontaneous uprising, rather than a co-ordinated operation backed by outside forces.

"The militia is of course strongly sprinkled with volunteers from other regions," Strelkov said in a taped interview with Russian tabloid Komsomolskaya Pravda. He estimated that a third of the fighters are not Ukrainian.

He backtracked Tuesday in an interview with Russian TV, claiming 90 per cent of the militiamen were Ukrainian.

The EU on Tuesday included Strelkov among 15 new people targeted by sanctions. EU documents identify him as a member of the Russian military intelligence agency GRU, as do Ukrainian authorities.

The commander himself was cryptic about his origins in the weekend interview.

In Moscow, a flurry of drama surrounded Strelkov's emergence, as camera crews swarmed around an apartment building that Ukrainian TV reported was home to his mother. Neighbours told The Associated Press that a "fancy black car" had turned up Tuesday morning to whisk the woman away.

Equally murky are the origins of Strelkov's insurgents, their operations and their weapons. They have proven themselves to be ruthless and effective, running their campaign with unerring foreknowledge of Ukrainian security operations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Carriage driver accused of faking ID of older horse

Breaking the rules. N.Y.C. driver may have used a younger horse's identity to keep an ailing 22-year-old horse at work

New York City carriage driver Frank Luo branded the wrong hoof identification number on an aging horse named Ceasar, who was supposed to be resting on a Pennsylvania farm, so he could work under a licence issued to a 12-year-old horse named Carsen, city health officials said last month.

In the written order, officials said a city vet noticed in late January that the horse had Carsen's ID number on its hoof, but its "physical characteristics and medical condition was that of the older horse." Ceasar had a mild, chronic condition called "heaves," which is similar to asthma, city officials said.

Luo told The Associated Press on Friday that the vet simply got it wrong. "I did not switch the horses. It's just very confusing because they look alike," he said.

Initially, Luo submitted paperwork intended to prove that the horse really was Carsen, including a handwritten note from a Pennsylvania farmer who said Ceasar had been on his farm for months. The city asked for more proof, including a veterinarian's evaluation.

Five days later, Luo's lawyer informed the department that he couldn't afford to have the horse sitting idle and had shipped him to Pennsylvania and sold him.

The sale effectively ended the investigation by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, which monitors the horses' health. But the Department of Consumer Affairs, which regulates the drivers, is still investigating. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Korea's president apologizes for ferry disaster

President Park Geun-hye pays tribute to the victims of the sunken ferry Sewol at a group memorial altar in Ansan, South Korea. Guen-hye apologized Tuesday for the government's inept initial response to a deadly ferry sinking as divers fought strong currents in their search for nearly 100 passengers still missing nearly two weeks after the accident. The government also raised the death toll to 204 amid rising indignation over claims the government did not do enough to rescue the victims. YONHAP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York

Murder trial might review rap lyrics

Jurors at the New York City trial of an alleged drug kingpin could be hearing his amateur rap rhymes as evidence against him.

Prosecutors have asked a judge to allow them to use the lyrics at the trial of Ronald "Da Riggs" Herron. The government says gritty recordings by Herron bolster allegations he was a stone-cold killer.

Defence lawyers have argued that their client's work is a constitutionally protected expression of free speech. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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A BRAVE NEW EARTH

Why go to Mars?
Futurists say the better question is: Why not?

ROBSON FLETCHER
Metro in Calgary

Peering into the coming decades, Glen Hiemstra has little doubt that humans will one day walk on Mars.

"It's a question of inevitability more than a question of feasibility," the Seattle-based author, consultant and founder of Futurist.com told Metro. "We will eventually go there."

While Hiemstra described the goal of the Mars One project to land settlers on the Red Planet in 2025 as "very ambitious," he also believes the timeline isn't all that far off.

"In my opinion, optimistically, it's the 2030s, not the 2020s," he said. "Realistically, it's probably the 2040s, 2050s before we've really assembled everything that we need."

Len Rosen, the Toronto-based author of 21st Century Tech Blog, foresees a similar timeframe for humanity's first footprints on Martian soil.

"The most optimistic people think in the 2030s — somewhere in that decade," said the 65-year-old Rosen. "I'm hoping I'll be alive to see it."

Questions of how aside, both Rosen and Hiemstra had similar answers when asked the bigger question: Why should we go to Mars?

Neither thought it likely that, in the immediate future at least, humans would need another planet to escape some calamity on Earth. Rather, they said, it's more a matter of satisfying our natural desire to explore.

"Curiosity is a huge part of our human nature," Rosen said. "Why do you climb a mountain to the top? You're not doing it because you feel you need to find something at the top of the mountain, other than the satisfaction."

Hiemstra said there is a certain "lifeboat aspect to settling somewhere else," adding that humanity will need another planet at some point in the distant, distant future, but for now that's not the main driver to send people to Mars.

"I think it's really driven more by the exploratory impulse," he said.

That impulse has been behind many past human achievements, Rosen noted.

"What drove us to learn how to build aircraft?" he said. "At the time I don't think anybody thought we needed to do it, but we did it. And now, what would be our world without air transport?"

WELCOME THE RED PLA

A human expedition to Mars is proposed within the next 15 years. Over the next three days, Metro will take you on a pre-flight trip to show you how we'll get there, who might be first to go, and what it might be like when they arrive in this new frontier.

Spacecraft propulsion *of the past, present and future ...*

Faster and faster. The roughly seven-month trip to Mars is seen as one of the major challenges in sending people to the Red Planet.

Such a long journey will take a toll on astronauts, both in terms of exposure to high levels of space radiation and the long-term effects of microgravity on the human body. But scientists are researching all sorts of different ways to speed up spacecraft and cut down on the travel time. Here are some of the propulsion methods being considered:

Liquid-fuelled rockets

This is the type of propulsion that has been sending rockets off of the Earth's surface since the 1950s. It remains the most feasible and readily available method of powering spacecraft, although the challenge for interplanetary travel (rather than just putting craft in orbit) is that it requires both fuel and oxygen — and that can become burdensome to carry, as oxygen accounts for most of the mass in typical propellant combinations.

Ion/plasma thrusters

This approach to propulsion uses electric forces to hurl tiny charged particles at high speeds. Many satellites already use this technology to help stabilize their orbits. These thrusters have been eyed for extremely long-distance space travel, as they can provide small but continuous acceleration for months, even years. But a former NASA astronaut is working on a "Variable Specific Impulse Magnetoplasma Rocket" (VASIMR) he believes could one day reach Mars in just 40 days.

Nuclear fission

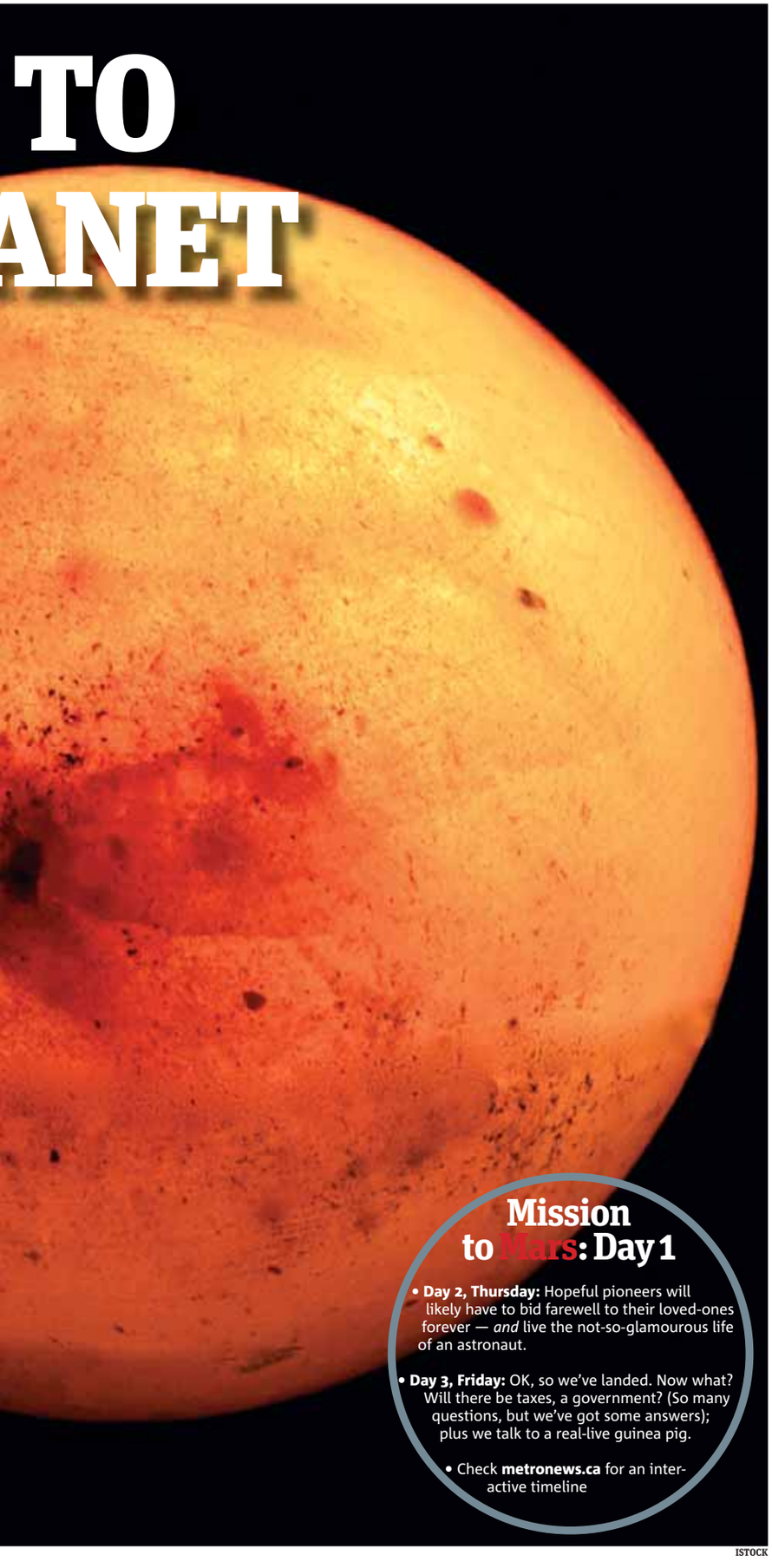
Splitting atoms to derive energy is an attractive option because a tiny amount of nuclear fuel can deliver an enormous amount of propulsion. The main challenge lies in safely controlling the fission reaction, as you don't want a meltdown in space. Nevertheless, NASA is working on a "Fission Fragment Rocket Engine" that it believes could provide "significant thrust" using "small amounts of readily available, energy dense, long lasting fuel."

Nuclear fusion

This process involves the smashing of atoms together rather than splitting them apart, but it is similarly attractive because it harnesses massive amounts of energy from small amounts of fuel. A deuterium-tritium fuel pellet the size of a grain of sand could deliver as much propulsion as a gallon of liquid rocket fuel from a "Fusion Drive Rocket" under development by NASA and the University of Washington.

Anti matter engine

Anti matter engines are largely the stuff of science fiction, but the NASA Institute for Advanced Concepts is funding a team of researchers who are looking into the possibility of such technology. The idea is to collide matter with antimatter, resulting in a complete annihilation of mass, all of which is converted to energy. As NASA writes on its website: "While tons of chemical fuel are needed to propel a human mission to Mars, just tens of milligrams of antimatter will do."



Mission to Mars: Day 1

- **Day 2, Thursday:** Hopeful pioneers will likely have to bid farewell to their loved-ones forever — *and* live the not-so-glamourous life of an astronaut.
- **Day 3, Friday:** OK, so we've landed. Now what? Will there be taxes, a government? (So many questions, but we've got some answers); plus we talk to a real-live guinea pig.
- Check **metronews.ca** for an interactive timeline

ISTOCK

Success rate climbing with successive missions

Historically, more missions to Mars have failed than succeeded, but the success rate is climbing as technology improves and new missions build on the lessons of previous ones.

NASA, itself, has seen a string of recent successes, from the Spirit and Opportunity rovers in 2003, to the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter in 2007, to the famous Curiosity rover that landed in 2012 and has been sending back high-definition imagery ever since.

NASA's next major mission, named InSight, is set to launch in March 2016 with the goal of landing a robotic drill on the Red Planet that will probe five metres into Martian soil.

Working on the robot is Catherine Johnson, a professor of planetary geophysics at the University of British Columbia, who said the tricky task of safely placing a delicate lander on the surface of Mars is becoming easier in one sense, but harder in another.

"One of the things that is becoming more and more challenging — in a good way — is that we have more and more information about the surface of Mars now, at higher and higher resolution," she said.

"So our criteria for what is a safe landing site gets stricter and stricter."

But even with a perfectly calculated trajectory and an ideal location to land, Johnson said there's one curveball Mars can still throw at you — the weather.

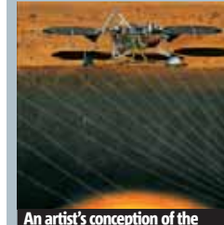
"A planet with an atmosphere, even if it's only a thin atmosphere like on Mars, that atmosphere can be quite variable," she said. "You never know exactly what's going to be happening the day you land."

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO IN CALGARY

Success and failures

In a "historical log" of 41 missions (not all of them landing missions) undertaken by various countries since 1960, NASA counts:

- **23** as having failed
- **16** as having succeeded
- **2** as "success/failure" for partially achieving their goals

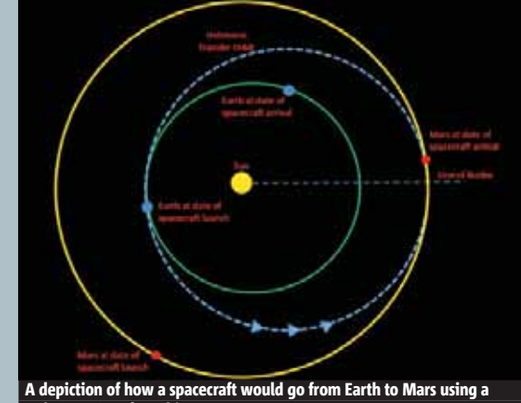


An artist's conception of the stationary NASA Mars lander known as InSight, set to launch in March 2016 with the goal of drilling into the interior of Mars.

COURTESY NASA/JPL-CALTECH

Journey to Mars

Hundreds of millions of kilometres on a slingshot-trip around the sun



A depiction of how a spacecraft would go from Earth to Mars using a Hohmann transfer orbit.

IMAGE COURTESY GEORGIA TECH SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS AND NAVIGATION COURSE

The trip to Mars is a long one.

Next to Venus, the Red Planet is the second closest to Earth, but the direct distance from here to there is still measured in the tens of millions — sometimes hundreds of millions — of kilometres.

That's because, as Earth and Mars each make their way around the sun, the distance between the two terrestrial planets varies widely.

At its closest, Mars can be about 55 million kilometres away. At its furthest, it's more than 400 million kilometres away. Earth has the inside track around the sun, orbiting every 365 days, while the Mars year is longer — roughly 687 days.

The difference between their orbital periods means that Earth "laps" Mars about once every 26 months.

These moments present an ideal launch window for spacecraft, although even then the journey is not a direct A-to-B path.

A typical trip to Mars follows what's called a "Hohmann transfer orbit," in which a spacecraft leaves Earth on one side of the sun, slingshots around the sun, and meets up with Mars on the far side of the sun from where it began. The entire journey spans hundreds of millions of kilometres and takes about seven months.

This is the route that Mars One plans to use.

According to its ambitious schedule, the non-profit foundation aims to launch unmanned spacecraft carrying equipment and robots to the Red Planet in 2018, 2020, and 2022, and then send the first crew of human settlers — on a one-way trip — in 2024.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO IN CALGARY

Who on earth would take a one-way trip to Mars? Find out in Day 2 of Mission to Mars

Italian court. Judge says Knox delivered 'mortal blow' in 2007 murder

The Italian appeals court that reinstated the conviction against Amanda Knox in her British roommate's 2007 murder said in a lengthy reasoning made public Tuesday that Knox herself delivered the fatal blow out of a desire to "overpower and humiliate" the victim.

Presiding Judge Alessandro Nencini concluded in a 337-page document that the evidence "inevitably leads to the upholding of the criminal responsibility" against Knox and her former Italian boyfriend Raffaele Sollecito for the murder of 21-year-old Meredith Kercher in a hillside villa occupied by students in the university town of Perugia.

The judge said the nature of Kercher's wounds, which he said were inflicted by two knives, and the absence of defensive wounds indicated multiple aggressors were to blame, also including Rudy Hermann Guede, an Ivorian man convicted separately and serving a 16-year sentence.

Nencini presided over the Florence-based panel that reinstated the first trial guilty verdicts against Knox and Sollecito in January, handing Knox a 28.5-year sentence including the additional conviction on a slander charge for wrongly accusing a Congolese bar owner. Sollecito faces 25 years.

The release of the court's reasoning opens the verdict to an appeal back to the supreme Court of Cassation.

The University of Washington student has been in the United States since 2011, when her earlier conviction was overturned. Knox, 26, has vowed to fight the reinstated conviction, saying she would "never go willingly" to Italy to face her judicial fate.

Kercher was found dead in a pool of blood in the apartment she and Knox shared in the town of Perugia, on Nov. 2, 2007. Her throat had been slashed and she had been sexually assaulted. Knox and Sollecito were arrested four days later and served four years in prison before an appeals court acquitted them in 2011.

Italy's high court later threw out that acquittal in a scathing decision and ordered a new trial, resulting in January's conviction. The courts have cast wildly different versions of events.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The decision

Nencini's reasoning assigned the role of each assailant:

- Sollecito, now 30, used a small knife that caused a wound on Kercher's neck and also was used to remove her bra, the judge wrote, while Guede restrained and sexually assaulted the victim. Knox "delivered the only mortal blow," with a kitchen knife, the judge wrote.

Tornadoes ravage the Deep South

Southern U.S. The storm system is the latest onslaught of severe weather after a tornado devastated Little Rock, Ark., Sunday

Dan Wassman gets a hug from a friend, Amy Lundsford, at the home of his son, also named Dan, who was killed when a tornado destroyed the house late Sunday afternoon in Vilonia, Ark. MARK WILSON/GETTY IMAGES

A dangerous storm system that spawned a chain of deadly tornadoes over three days flattened homes and businesses, forced frightened residents in more than half a dozen states to take cover and left tens of thousands in the dark Tuesday.

As the storm hopscotched across a large swath of the U.S., the overall death toll was more than 30, killed Monday and Sunday in a band stretching from Oklahoma to Alabama.

Some awoke Tuesday to find their loved ones missing and their homes pulverized. In Louisville, firefighters picked through the remains of mobile homes, and 20 of them linked hands to wade through debris. Rescue workers stepped over downed power lines and broken trees.

With water and roof damage, the small local hospital's emergency room was evacuated Monday.

"We thought we were going to be OK, then a guy came in and said, 'It's here right now,'" said Dr. Michael Henry, head of the ER. "Then boom! It blew through."

Just east of the hospital, a woman died at the daycare centre she'd run for seven years, according to the county coroner. One seriously injured child was evacuated from the centre, said state Rep. Michael Evans, who is acting as a liaison for the county.

"You see this in movies," said Abby Tucker, 27. "You don't see it in your own backyard."

The storm system is the latest onslaught of severe weather a day after a tornado carved an 120-kilometre path of destruction through Little Rock, Ark., killing at least 15. Severe storms also killed one person each in Oklahoma and Iowa on Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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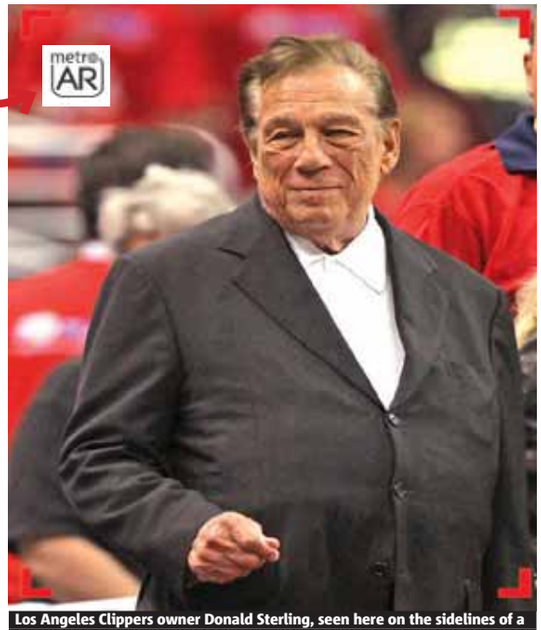

Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling, seen here on the sidelines of a 2012 NBA playoffs game, won't get to watch his team in the current playoffs after the NBA banned him for life in response to racist comments the league says he made in a recorded conversation. STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGES FILE

NBA clips Sterling's wings with lifetime ban

Racist comments. League commissioner says Clippers' owner acknowledged he was the man on the tape

Issuing about the strongest rebuke that he could, NBA Commissioner Adam Silver banned Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling for life Tuesday for making racist comments in a recorded conversation, the first step toward forcing a sale of the club and permanently removing Sterling from the league.

Silver also fined Sterling $2.5 million US.

Sterling, the league's longest-tenured owner and someone with an estimated net worth of about $2 billion US, did not offer any immediate comment.

Silver said a league investigation found that Sterling was in fact the person on the audiotapes that were released over the weekend.

Sterling still owns the team, but going forward he is immediately barred from attending any NBA games or practices, being present at any Clippers office or facility, participating in any business or player personnel decisions involving the team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reaction

"This league is far bigger than any one owner, any one coach and any one player."

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver, speaking at a press conference Tuesday in New York City to discuss Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling.

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Feds constantly ask telecoms for private info

Report. The privacy commissioner's office reveals government asks for information 1.2M times every year

The federal government asks Canadian telecom companies for private customer information about 1.2 million times each year, documents released Tuesday by the federal privacy commissioner's office show.

It is unclear how many of those requests are made without a warrant. But figures provided to the office in late 2011 show wireless telecom companies complied with the government's requests for customer data at least 784,756 times.

However, the actual total is likely even greater, since only three of nine telecom companies told the commissioner's office how many times they granted the government's requests for customer data. The numbers came to light Tuesday as Canada's acting privacy commissioner revealed that telecom companies have refused to disclose how often they release confidential customer information to the federal government without a warrant.

Chantal Bernier THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chantal Bernier, the interim privacy commissioner, said her office has repeatedly asked telecom companies to disclose statistics and the scope of warrantless disclosure of data, but to no avail.

"I'm not disputing that there are times when there is no time to get a warrant — life is in danger," Bernier said.

"What we would like is for those warrantless disclosures to simply be represented in statistics so that Canadians have an idea of the scope of the phenomenon."

Bernier said the companies have only provided her office with aggregate data, which shows how many times the telecom industry as a whole gives the government customer information without a warrant.

In 2011, the privacy commissioner's office asked 12 telecom companies for information about their customer-disclosure data. The Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association, which represents the industry, replied with aggregate data from nine of the 12 companies.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mercedes-Benz recalls 284,000+ C-Class cars

A Mercedes C-Class C350 sits on display at the New York International Auto Show in April 2011, in New York City. Mercedes-Benz is recalling more than 284,000 C-Class cars in the U.S. and Canada because the rear lights can fail. The recall affects some C300, C350 and C63 AMG cars from the 2008 through 2011 model years. The problem affects nearly 253,000 cars in the U.S. and another 31,000 in Canada. STORY: THE CANADIAN PRESS; PHOTO: RAMIN TALAIE/GETTY IMAGES

Market Minute

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Natural gas: $4.84 US (+$0.07)
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OIL
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$1,296.30 US (-$2.70)

Canadian content rules

This porn needs more maple syrup and Mounties stat!

Three TV channels specializing in pornography have been forced to enhance their Canadian content and closed captioning to meet CRTC guidelines.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rude staff boosts sales

If luxury brands want to sell more, they should hire rude sales staff.

That's the finding of a new University of B.C. study that reveals consumers who get the brush-off at high-end retailers are more willing to fork over the big bucks.

"In some ways, you can see it as like the Pretty Woman effect," said Sauder School of Business marketing professor Darren Dahl, referring to the famous shopping scene in the 1990 Hollywood rom-com starring Julia Roberts. "In that moment, you want that luxury. You want to be part of that group."

For the study, participants imagined or had two interactions with sales staff, one that was rude and one that wasn't. The participants then rated their feelings about the store brands and their desire to buy the product.

Those who aspired to be associated with the high-end brands were more likely to buy after being treated poorly by the sales staff, the study found.

The effect only held true for customers who aspired to be associated with the luxury brand. It also only worked if the salesperson appeared to be an authentic representative of the brand.

"This isn't everybody," said Dahl. "Our study shows you've got to be the right kind of snob in the right kind of store for the effect to work."

METRO IN VANCOUVER

TSA's PreCheck comes here

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration is expanding its PreCheck expedited screening program to passengers on international airlines.

Air Canada on Tuesday became the first international carrier to participate, with TSA officials saying other foreign airlines would soon sign on. Airlines need to first update their computer systems to embed extra information in their boarding pass barcodes as well as printing a PreCheck logo.

Launch

2011

The program was launched in October 2011 at four airports.

Passengers in PreCheck lanes get to leave on their shoes, belt, and light jackets, keep liquids and laptops in their bags and use a standard metal detector, not the full-body scanners. Security agents can process twice as many passengers in PreCheck lanes in the same time as in a normal lane. That allows the agency to dedicate more staff to other passengers — those who theoretically pose the higher risk.

The program was launched in October 2011 at four airports. Today, there are PreCheck lanes at 118 of the roughly 450 U.S. commercial airports. About five million of the 14 million passengers who fly each week receive expedited screening. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BY GEORGE! AT LAST, A UNION FORGED

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

I'm sure I'm not the only guy who ever wished he could be George Clooney, if only for a day.

A winning combination of intelligence, talent, wit, savoir faire, je ne sais quoi and all those other untranslatable French phrases, George tops it all off with matinee-idol good looks.

Not surprising. He's a matinee idol, duh.

Which is no small distinction. Matinee idols are a dying breed. All the other guys on the cover of GQ look alike and are called Hemsworth. George is the epitome of class at a time when class is 40 per cent off at the outlet mall. Who wouldn't want to be George?

Until now, George was also the world's most eligible bachelor. Apparently — I wouldn't know — that's tough. When the women of the world are throwing themselves at your feet, it can be a challenge, or so I hear. George handled the "too many women problem" by doing his best to date them all. And after a brief matrimonial experiment in the early '90s, he also tried to live with them all, one at a time, for two- to three-year stretches.

A selfless quest, if doomed to failure. There's just not enough George to go around. And, truth be told, at 53, he's not getting any younger. You could see it in Gravity. Sandra Bullock was the undisputed star and George was relegated to supporting role status as the kindly sidekick, sort of Buzz Lightyear with crinkles. Not wrinkles. George will never have wrinkles.

The signs are clear. The man who bet Michelle Pfeiffer $100,000 that he'd never get married again is ready to settle down. All those cocktail waitresses, supermodels and female wrestlers were OK when he was dating the entire female gender, but now he has to pick one.

And so he's focused that formidable charm on the world's smartest and most beautiful woman, who, in case you're wondering, is 36-year-old Amal Alamuddin. It's hard to believe she is just one woman. She tops the list of the 21 Hot Barristers in London, was educated at Oxford, specializes in international law, speaks three languages, advises the Secretary General of the UN on human rights in Syria, represented ex-Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and helped Wikileaks founder Julian Assange resist extradition to Sweden.

I imagine it's hard to pull the wool over Ms. Alamuddin's eyes, but when the wolf mounting the charm offensive is George Clooney, what can you do? You sigh, succumb, and go to meet mom. Who, by the way, approves of this prodigious combination of beauty and brains.

Of course, this is real life, not Hollywood. The union of the world's most eligible bachelor and the paragon of global jurisprudence does not, at first blush, look like a recipe for Happily Ever After. Amal better hope George's attempt to mate, er, date the planet is over, and George better hope he doesn't end up before a world tribunal on matrimonial war crimes. Still, today, it's all about congratulations and the triumph of class over crass.

ZOOM

Science experimantis

Newcastle University scientists research vision by outfitting a praying mantis with 3D glasses.
MIKE URWIN/NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

Q&A

"It's a test for their eyesight"

VIVEK NITYANANDA
Research associate at Newcastle University's Institute of Neuroscience

A praying mantis has been outfitted with the world's smallest pair of 3D glasses as part of an experiment to understand the insect's vision. Scientists from Newcastle University used beeswax to affix the five-millimetre-wide shades on the bug's head.

Here's what researcher Vivek Nityanada had to say about the experiment:

What inspired you to put 3D glasses on a bug?
We wanted to find out how three-dimensional vision has evolved. Like humans, praying mantises have 3D vision, or stereopsis. They are the only insects with such sight.

How did your mantis take to its new eyewear?
It tried to take them off at first, but eventually got pretty comfortable with them and went about its usual mantis business.

Do the glasses work?
So far, our results have been mixed. It's promising but we haven't nailed it down yet.

Maybe the insect will prefer the glasses, as a super-enhancement to its vision. (Laughs) It doesn't really change its eyesight for the better; we're just fooling it into misjudging depth. But the glasses do make them seem more sophisticated, and they definitely look weirder than they already are.

METRO

METRO AUGMENTED REALITY

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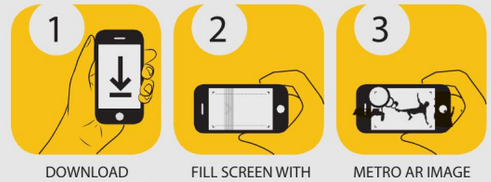

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MetroTube

Your money belt can't save you now

ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

Anybody who has travelled abroad has likely been warned about the skilled pickpockets who are hoping to ply your wares in the world's larger tourist havens.

But as this security footage shot in Thailand shows, keeping your belongings safe is more than just a matter of having your cash strapped to your belly and your belongings always in sight. Because a highly co-ordinated phalanx of thieves, complete with distraction games and carefully constructed props, makes for a formidable enemy.

ISTOCK

metro

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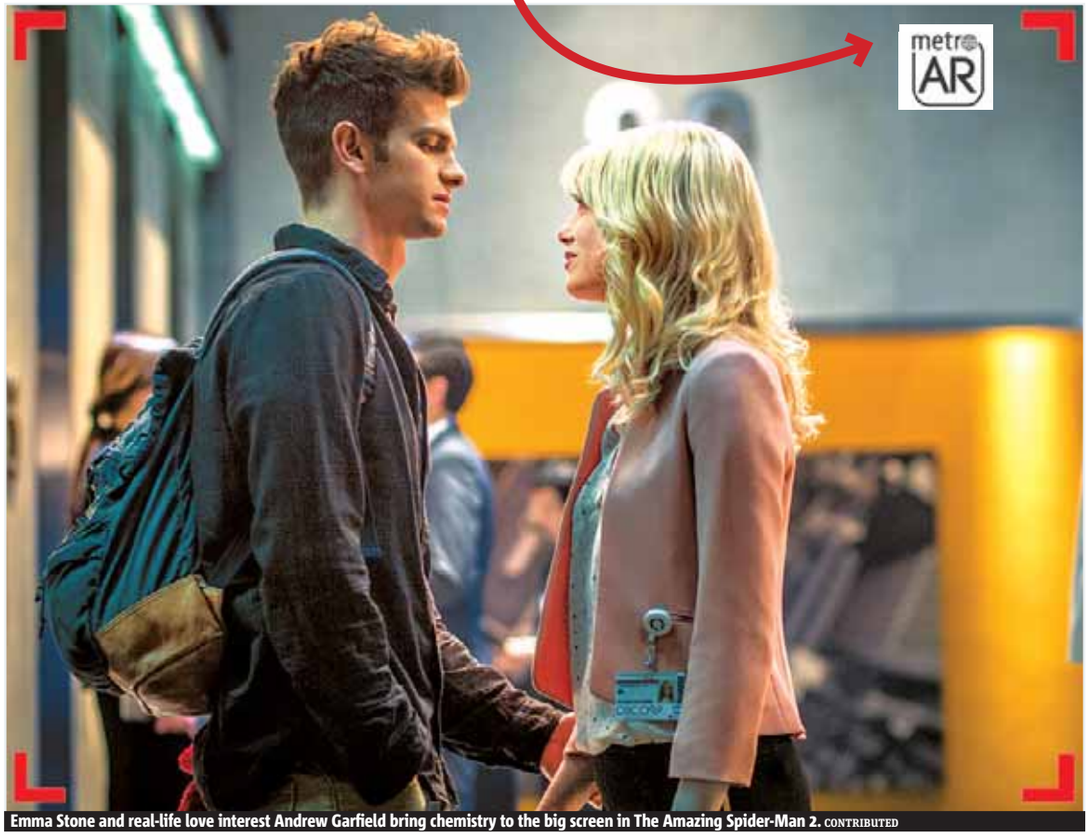
See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app. Andrew Garfield talks about becoming Peter Parker

SCENE 2

Stone shines in every role

From The Help to Spider-Man. Whether the role demands Lucille-Ball-style screwball comedy, fiery rage and indignation or sizzling chemistry, Emma thrives

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca



Emma Stone and real-life love interest Andrew Garfield bring chemistry to the big screen in The Amazing Spider-Man 2. CONTRIBUTED

The Spider-Man movies don't skimp on the stuff that puts the "super" into superhero movies. There's web-slinging shenanigans and wild bad guys galore, but The Amazing Spider-Man 2 director Marc Webb calls the relationship between Spidey and girlfriend Gwen Stacy, "the engine of the movie."

The chemistry the real-life couple brings to the screen is undeniable, but it almost didn't get a chance to blossom. Before Stone landed the role of the brainiac love interest, Mia Wasikowska, Imogen Poots, Emma Roberts and even Lindsay Lohan were considered.

Stone won some of the best reviews of her career playing Gwen in The Amazing Spider-Man — Peter Travers said she, "just jumps to life on screen" — in a role that gave her the biggest hit of her career to date.

Smaller roles in Superbad and Zombieland hinted at her ability to be funny and hold the screen, but in 2010's Easy A she turned a corner into full-on Lucille Ball mode, mixing pratfalls with wit while pulling faces and cracking jokes. Smart and funny, she's the film's centrepiece.

The movie begins with the voice over, "The rumours of my promiscuity have been greatly exaggerated." It's the voice of Olive (Stone), a clean-cut high school senior who tells a little white lie about losing her virginity. As soon as the gossip mill gets a hold of the info, however, her life takes a parallel course to the heroine of the book she is studying in English class — The Scarlet Letter.

Stone is laugh-out-loud funny in Easy A, but her breakout film was a serious drama.

In The Help, she plays Jackson, Miss. native "Skeeter" Phelan who comes home from four years at school to discover the woman who raised her, a maid named Constantine (Cicely Tyson), is no longer employed by her family. Her mother says she quit, but Skeeter has doubts. With the help of a courageous group of housekeepers she tells the real story of the life of the maids, writing a book called The Help.

The Flick Filosopher called her performance, "on fire with indignation and rage," and she moved from The Help to a variety of roles, including playing a femme fatale in Gangster Squad opposite Ryan Gosling and Josh Brolin, and lending her trademark raspy voice to cave girl Eep in the animated hit The Croods.

The 25-year-old actress is living her childhood dream of being an actress but says if performing hadn't worked out, she would have been a journalist, "because (investigating people's lives is) pretty much what an actor does. And imagine getting to interview people like me," she laughs. ''It can't get much better than that."

The cast of Star Wars: Episode VII includes up-and-comer Oscar Isaac. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Star Wars: Episode VII Cast finally announced

Star Wars: Episode VII finally has its stars. May the Force be with them.

After months of carefully guarded secrecy and endless Internet speculation, Lucasfilm and Walt Disney Co. unveiled the cast of the latest incarnation of the space epic Tuesday on the official Star Wars website.

Starring in J.J. Abrams' new Star Wars are: John Boyega, Daisy Ridley, Adam Driver, Oscar Isaac, Max von Sydow, Andy Serkis and Domhnall Gleeson.

The companies declined to name the characters each will play, though Driver, the breakout star of HBO's Girls, is widely expected to be playing the film's feature villain.

They join returning Star Wars veterans Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill and Carrie Fisher. Peter Mayhew is also back as Chewbacca and Kenny Baker will reprise R2-D2.

Star Wars: Episode VII, which will be set 30 years after 1983's Return of the Jedi, will be released in December 2015. Disney acquired Lucasfilm in 2012, and immediately put a new Star Wars trilogy into development. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justice League. Will Matt Damon don green tights for the role of Aquaman?

Rumours have it that Matt Damon could be slated to join his longtime friend Ben Affleck on the set of Zack Snyder's forthcoming superhero movie. That's the buzz on TheWrap.com.

Matt Damon could board Justice League, the feature on the DC Comics superhero team, along the same lines as Marvel's Avengers. The speculation should be regarded as such, however, especially since the character he is thought to play is not even guaranteed to appear in the movie.

Damon may be in line to play Aquaman, king of the underwater city of Atlantis, whose superpowers include telepathy and superhuman strength.

If the rumours are true, Damon will co-star with Ben Affleck and Henry Cavill, who are expected to return as Batman and Superman respectively.

The other persistent rumours surrounding Justice League pertain to its possible release date. While Latino Review thinks the feature will be in theatres on May 5, 2017, the Wall Street Journal indicates that the feature will be released in 2018 at the earliest. AFP

Matt Damon is rumoured to be on board for the upcoming Justice League film. ANNE-CHRISTINE POUJOULAT/ AFP

Online TV

Yahoo unveils original online show content

Yahoo has unveiled original online shows and new advertising options as it continues a long-running attempt to evolve into an Internet venue for premier content.

The offerings will include two comedy programs, a partnership with Live Nation to stream concerts, an online travel magazine, and new advertising capabilities.

Other Space, a science fiction comedy, will centre on a spaceship crew winding up in an alternate universe in the early 22nd century, while Sin City Saints tells the story of a Silicon Valley tycoon who buys a Las Vegas pro-basketball team. AFP

HBO

Game of Thrones sets ratings record

Game of Thrones achieved a new record audience with the fourth episode of its fourth season.

The broadcast was watched by close to seven million viewers at 9 p.m., and the total audience number climbed to 8.4 million when taking into account viewers of rebroadcasts through the night. AFP

Season 4, Episode 4 of Game of Thrones was the most-watched yet. HBO

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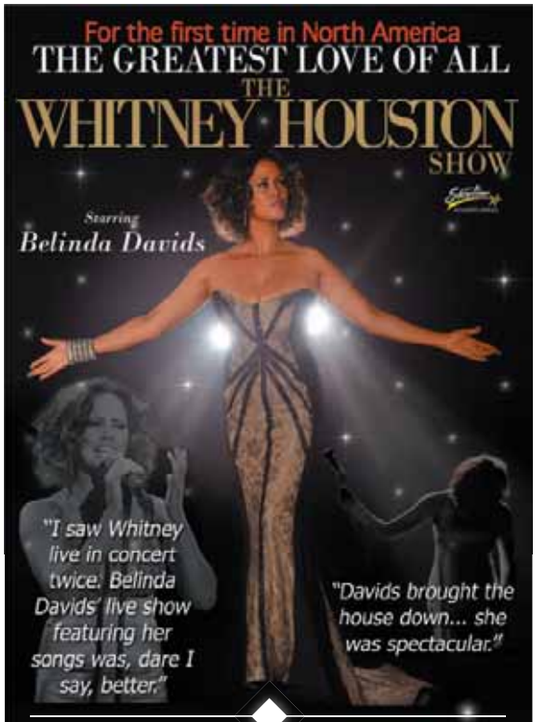

The Greatest Love Of All – The Whitney Houston Show starring Belinda Davids is a fun and touching tribute to a true pop icon, presenting a catalogue of Houston's most loved songs from the span of her 29 year career, all performed by the stunning Belinda Davids and her live band and dancers.

The 2 ½ hour concert and stage show includes hits such as 'How Will I Know', 'I Wanna Dance With Somebody', 'Where Do Broken Hearts Go', 'Didn't We Almost Have It All', 'I'm Every Woman', 'Exhale (Shoop Shoop)', 'Step by Step' and of course, 'I Will Always Love You'.

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The eternal eco-warrior: Vampire Diaries actor tackles climate change

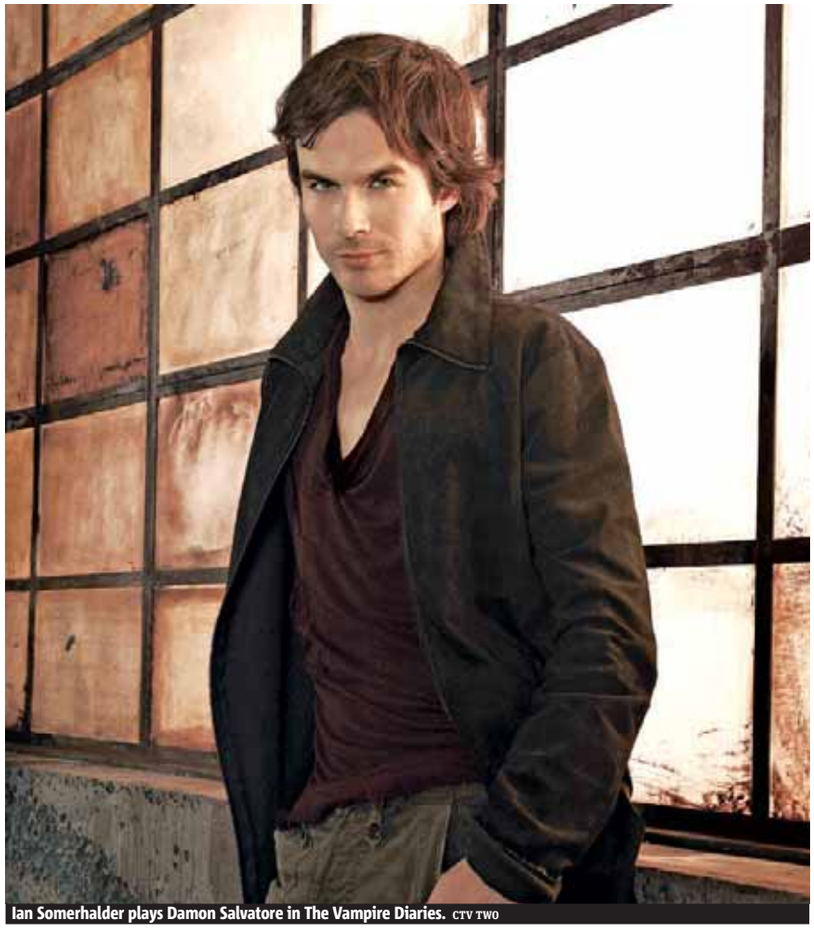
Immortal with a heart. Somerhalder might act cold-blooded on TV, but his real passion is preserving the planet

LISA WEIDENFELD
Metro World News

Ian Somerhalder has been playing vampire Damon Salvatore on the CW's The Vampire Diaries for five years, but he has a new idea for what his character should do next: Save the environment.

"I've already been here for 200 years, and I'm going to be here for another millennium — I might as well try and preserve this place. Things are just going to get worse," says Somerhalder of what his character should be thinking.

It's a cause close to the actor's heart. He recently appeared in Years of Living Dangerously, Showtime's documentary series focusing on individual attempts to halt climate change, with each episode following a celebrity as he or she learns about those efforts. Harrison Ford kicked off the series, and Somerhalder's episode saw the actor travelling with Anna Jane Joyner in North Carolina to convince her father, a climate change denier, of the importance of taking action.


Ian Somerhalder plays Damon Salvatore in The Vampire Diaries. CTV TWO

Bedtime with a vampire

Somerhalder had some fun with the initial design for Damon's bedroom, since the character is a bit of a womanizer. "We were talking about filming Damon's room and I said, 'Oh, wow, you know what, his bed and his shower, they need to be able to fit at least eight sorority girls — and it does." The designers took Somerhalder's advice to heart. "It's two king beds together. It's huge," says the actor.

It's no small task. Her father is Rick Joyner, founder of the massive MorningStar Ministries, and could reach quite a large audience if he started advocating for action on climate change. The actor said he was thrilled to be part of the documentary series, which James Cameron spearheaded.

"My heart jumped out of my chest because it was just incredible. Looking at the cast of characters, it's not even a cast. It's a movement," says Somerhalder.

Other participants include Matt Damon, chef Mark Bittman and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

But that doesn't mean the actor has left his day job. Though he's not totally a fan of the nicer side of Damon viewers have been getting since the character found love with Elena Gilbert, he understands the creative decision: "Being on a TV show is very much like life. You get thrown curveballs all the time and it's how you deal with them, and it makes you a bigger and better person."

He did enjoy revisiting Damon's darker side this season, calling it his favourite since the first season and teasing that the finale is "intense."

"The way it ends, I never saw coming," Somerhalder says. "It's going to freak a bunch of people out."

Somerhalder's episode of Years of Living Dangerously airs May 4 on Showtime at 10 p.m., and The Vampire Diaries airs Thursdays at 8 p.m. ET on CTV Two.

Quoted

"I've already been here for 200 years and I'm going to be here for another millennium — I might as well try and preserve this place."

Ian Somerhalder, who plays Damon Salvatore on The Vampire Diaries
explaining why Damon should be concerned about the environment

Craig Ferguson

Ferguson gives up the late-night-chair

In the latest of a series of late-night comedy shake-ups, Craig Ferguson, host of CBS' The Late Late Show since 2005, has announced that he is leaving the show.

This is the most recent domino to fall in the late-night lineup. David Letterman announced his retirement from Ferguson's lead-in, The Late Show, earlier in April. CBS quickly named Stephen Colbert of The Colbert Report as his successor. Many speculated that, with no chance of being promoted to the earlier show, Ferguson would leave when his contract ends this year, which turned out to be the case.

"CBS and I are not getting divorced, we are 'consciously uncoupling,' but we will still spend holidays together and share custody of the fake horse and robot skeleton, both of whom we love very much," Ferguson said in a statement, referring to two popular props from the show.

Paul Simon and wife arrested after fight

Music legend Paul Simon and his wife, Edie Brickell, were arrested at their New Canaan, Conn., home this recently for disorderly conduct, though the long-married couple insist everything is fine. "I got my feelings hurt and I picked a fight with my husband," Brickell said in a statement, according to CNN. "The police called it disorderly. Thank God it's orderly now." The couple were held overnight Saturday and released the next morning before appearing in court Monday, where they held hands in front of the judge.

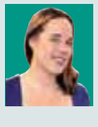
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

V. STIVIANO/INSTAGRAM

Donald Sterling's girlfriend, V. Stiviano, reads Metro?



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

After the audio tapes of Clippers' owner Donald Sterling spewing racial slurs hit, his alleged girlfriend and leaker of those tapes, V. Stiviano, made her Instagram account public for the world to see. And if you haven't looked at it, you should. It is truly weird and obnoxious — she overuses hashtags more than a 13-year-old girl. After some sleuthing, we stumbled upon this shot of her reading a Metro with the caption, "I'm searching for love in the classified section!"

We at Metro want you to know we don't support people like Donald Sterling advertising in our classified section. She must have found him some other way. Maybe racistsugardaddyforme.com?

Twitter

@lenadunham
Jack just got home from a week away and the first thing he did was try to convince me that Tara Reid is in Schindler's List

@KChenoweth
the actress playing Lady Stark in Game of Thrones is just incredible.

@MarlonWayans
Why did I tell my son I'd get him whatever shoes he wanted if he got good grades? This s--- gotta stop!!!! Tell my son go back to being dumb!!

Kanye West and Kim Kardashian ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Kim and Kanye lockdown their love this week

It is being reported that Kim Kardashian and Kanye West will be wed in a very small, private ceremony with a justice of the peace in Los Angeles this week.

Yes, yes, yes — the lavish Parisian celebration is still taking place, but before that occurs, their lawyers are recommending they be hitched in a civil ceremony to avoid going through an international bureaucratic nightmare. After they say "I do" in court, they will then fly to Paris to plan their wedding.

Get your suits and dresses dry cleaned now — it's reported they will be married on May 24.

George Clooney

George's family stunned he proposed

So how did committed bachelor George Clooney end up feeling compelled to propose to girlfriend Amal Alamuddin after just six months of dating? That's a mystery even his own family can't solve.

"This woman must be exceptionally special to him for him to take the plunge. He hasn't seen her very long. In the past there has at least been some sort of length of time," the actor's aunt, Starla Clooney, tells Radar Online. "I'm just as surprised as the rest of the world."

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See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app for more images from North Carolina's Outer Banks

Outer Banks offers different strokes for different folks

More than just a golf destination. Once you've tired of swinging the sticks, there's still plenty more to take in on a trip to North Carolina's rugged coastline

BRIAN KENDALL
canadiangolftraveller.com

Nags Head Golf Links is cruelly exposed to the turbulent waters of the Atlantic and offers a challenging 18-hole game. ALL PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED/PLAYOBXGOLF.COM

Even for golfers determined to spend every possible moment swinging the sticks, the Outer Banks of North Carolina offer other attractions too essential to ignore.

Foremost among them is the Wright Brothers National Memorial, set on the now hallowed ground near the beach town of Kitty Hawk where Wilbur and Orville Wright launched the first powered air flight in 1903.

A stone pillar marks the precise spot of that epochal liftoff, and the site's prize attraction is a full-scale replica of the Wright Flyer, their first primitive aircraft.

The Wright brothers are credited with making famous this sun-drenched 320-kilometre long chain of barrier islands, just off the coast of North Carolina and a small stretch of Virginia.

Today, the coastline's white sand beaches, lighthouses, oyster houses, quaint shingle-sided inns and outstanding golf courses are year-round attractions — although peak season runs from May through September.

Capricious winds off the turbulent waters offshore, known as the Graveyard of the Atlantic, frequently bedevil golfers at the popular oceanfront courses of OBX, as tourism marketers have branded the Outer Banks.

Most cruelly exposed to the elements is Nags Head Golf Links, a Scottish-style design where several holes play alongside Roanoke Sound. Golf Digest called architect Bob Moore's layout "the longest 6,126 yards you'll ever play."

Another seaside beauty is Currituck Club, a dramatic Rees Jones design that sweeps across 600 acres of dunes, wetlands, maritime forests and sound seascapes.

High seas swept ashore another of the coast's unique attractions. Wild horses, descendants of Spanish mustangs that survived 16th-century shipwrecks, freely roam the dunes of Swan Beach, North Swan Beach and Carova Beach. Jeep tours offered from the nearby town of Corolla provide a close-up look at the tenacious survivors of a herd that once ranged throughout the barrier islands.

A stroll through beauty like this will make you forget the frustration of golf.

Where to stay

Many visitors rent beach houses through local agents. Popular inns include Nags Head Inn and Hilton Garden Inn in Kitty Hawk. But gorgeously remodelled Sanderling Resort, a beachhouse-style property just outside the town of Duck, is especially memorable. Three pools and a wraparound deck overlook an uninterrupted strand of prime Atlantic beachfront.

Nags Head, Kill Devil Hills, Waves, Duck and other quaintly named and picturesque beachfront towns dot a still largely unpretentious and laid-back strand where many houses are built on stilts for protection against the surging tides that accompany the autumn hurricanes.

Visitors will need a car to travel between golf courses and see the sights.

It's a long trek to the Outer Banks from even the closest major airports: Norfolk International Airport is about 145 kilometres from centrally located Nags Head; and Raleigh Durham International Airport about 338 kilometres.

Another must-play course is Kilmarlic Golf Club, a Tom Steele mainland design carved through 600 acres of maritime forest and wetlands. Kilmarlic hosted the North Carolina Open in 2004 and 2009.

A more player-friendly option is The Pointe Golf Club, a traditional Russell Breeden-designed layout in rural countryside on the mainland.

Far more demanding is The Pointe's sister course — the Carolina Club, a brawny 7,000-yard brute where the shifting ocean breezes present a constant challenge. The signature hole here is a 166-yard par three with a TPC Sawgrass-inspired island green.

Strike out on a springtime trip to Boston

From Fenway to Fort Point. There's plenty to see and do in one of the most historic cities in the United States

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Iconic Fenway Park. LOREN CHRISTIE

Fort Point. LOREN CHRISTIE

In the late '90s, I spent three summers in and out of Boston working as a tour guide. This past weekend, I went back to see what's changed in one of America's most historic cities.

After almost 20 years, the Big Dig is over and the snarling traffic is gone. This massive construction project of underground roadways beneath the city included the dismantling of an elevated highway that cut through the downtown. In its place urban parks have sprung up as part of the extensive Rose Kennedy Greenway, which has blazed a two-kilometre swath of green through the city core.

The project has united pedestrians and drawn them to the newly developed waterfront area with food trucks, a carousel and more attractions.

Iconic Fenway Park, home to the city's beloved Red Sox baseball team, used to be on the edge of the tourist trail.

The charming Commonwealth Hotel changed that by coming into the area 10 years ago and attracting tourists into neighbouring Kenmore Square.

The revitalization of the square with hip restaurants and bars like Eastern Standard have made a pre- or post--game meal an experience, and according to my taxi driver Paul, "turned Kenmore into a paah-ty place."

Fort Point is an historic warehouse district that has been transformed into a collection of artists' workshops, businesses and restaurants. My former employer's headquarters on Congress Street, in the heart of the Fort Point area, is still there. However, instead of a lonely Dunkin' Donuts as the only potential lunch spot, today's Congress Street includes a two-block stretch of modern restaurants that were hopping when I strolled by. My meal of white sausage with hazelnut pesto and sorrels, a perfectly seasoned flank steak with chimichurri sauce and a side of golden beets and cauliflower at buzzy Tavern Road was perfect.

Bostonians have always burst with civic pride, but following last year's Boston Marathon bombings, you get the feeling that it goes beyond the love of hometown sports teams and historic buildings.

It seems that every citizen has your back and each other's. After brunch at Towne Stove & Spirits on Boylston Street, blocks from the marathon finish line, I wandered up to Engine 33/Ladder 15 fire hall, which has been in operation since 1888.

Taking a suggestion from a local we met the day before, I bought a Boston Fire Department T-shirt as a souvenir.

The $20 cost goes to a fund to support the families of two firefighters who recently died in the line of duty.

As our new Bostonian friend pointed out, "Our first responders look after all of us, so we look after them."

How-to

ISTOCK

Buy the right luggage

1. Are you a hard-case person or a soft one? There's likely a Buzzfeed.com quiz to help you determine this.

2. Shop in person. Look for the lightest bag you can find, but nothing too flimsy.

3. Always go with the next-to-largest size, or at least one size up from what you think you need.

4. Try to avoid black to avoid carousel conundrums. Ditto too many exterior zipper pulls.

5. Extra pouches, compartments and dividers inside just means less room for your stuff. DOUG WALLACE/METRO

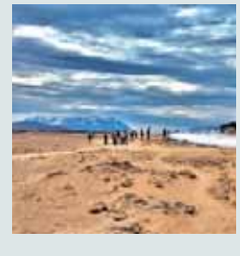
Tool

Tripping.com

Step away from the run-of-the-mill hotel stay. It's time to test-drive vacation rental search engine Tripping.com, if you haven't already. It corrals together all the peer-to-peer rentals from various rental agencies — HomeAway, Booking.com, HouseTrip, Expedia, etc. — letting you compare more than one million vacation homes and short-term rental properties in 36,000 cities — everything from humble houseboats to giant estates. The filtering is fast and easy to navigate.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Bucket list



Camping in Iceland

You may not believe the deals you can get these days with Icelandic Air, which is on a continuous mission to boost tourism on the tiny island. The weather is best in June. Tours within the interior are very organized and not as busy as you would expect — even your mother might like this. Tours within the interior are very organized and not as burly as you would expect, i.e. even your mo ther might like this. Overnight camping trips see you kitted out in everything you need, spending the night on the open lava fields. Check out VisitIceland.com.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

Earthy and buttery flavours mingle

Porcini-Dusted Fish with Brown Butter Sauce. Use dry mushrooms to create a unique taste

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Dried mushrooms offer up a delicious woodsy flavour to fish and the brown butter sauce makes the experience over the top in taste. You will find dried mushrooms in the produce section of the grocery store for this Porcini-Dusted Fish with Brown Butter Sauce recipe.

These fillets are a generous 6 oz (175 g) portions, a bit larger than the 5 oz (150 g) portions sold in stores. Buying larger fillets and cutting them at home gives you that advantage to enjoy a little more fish. Or you can also serve up six 4 oz (125 g) portions with this same recipe.

Fish

1. In a clean coffee grinder, grind dried mushrooms to a fine powder. Place in small bowl and add coriander; set aside.

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

2. Using sharp knife, cut fish into 4 equal portions if fillets are large. Coat each piece with mushroom mixture and place in baking dish. (Make-ahead: Cover and refrigerate for up to 4 hours.).

3. Sprinkle fish with salt. In a large nonstick skillet, melt 2 tbsp (25 ml) of the butter over medium-high heat until just starting to brown. Add fish, skin side down, if any and cook for 3 minutes. Transfer to parchment paper lined baking sheet and roast in 425 F (220 C) oven for about 10 minutes or until fish is opaque and flakes easily when tested.

Spinach Skillet Side

A gingery garlic zing matches nicely with spinach to serve up as a side dish for many meals. The added kick of hot pepper sauce adds an almost mellow balance to the dish.

For an added kick, add more hot pepper sauce before serving this side dish.

To make ahead: Cook up the spinach and then let it cool and refrigerate for up to 1 day. Simply warm it up in a skillet or microwave the next day.

1. In a large non-stick skillet, heat the canola oil over medium heat and cook garlic and ginger, stirring for about 2 minutes or until softened.

2. Add the baby spinach and hot pepper sauce and cook, stirring for about 5 minutes or until spinach is wilted.

Ingredients

Fish
- 1 pkg (14 g) dried wild mushrooms
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) finely chopped fresh coriander
- 1 1/2 lbs (750 g) fresh fish such as pickerel, cod or trout
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) kosher salt
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) butter

Spinach Skillet Side
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) canola oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) minced fresh ginger
- 1 bag (8 oz/227 g) baby spinach leaves
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) hot pepper sauce (optional)

This recipe serves four. EMILY RICHARDS

Fresh approach to baked haddock

This recipe makes four servings. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you're contemplating a fresh approach to breaded and baked haddock, turn to the mandoline to render a potato fit for pairing with the fish.

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp canola or vegetable oil
- 2 medium Yukon gold potatoes
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1 tbsp mayonnaise
- Salt and ground black pepper
- Dried thyme
- 1 1/4 lbs haddock fillets (about 2 large fillets)

In any other form, potatoes would be too robust for a delicate baked fish. But shaved paper thin, then wrapped around the fish, the potato slices become a deliciously crisp edible wrapper.

Just one caution — there is a reason mandolines come with a hand guard for holding the vegetables while slicing. They are extremely sharp and it's easy to cut yourself.

1. Heat oven to 400 F. Add oil to large cast-iron skillet, then place skillet in oven to heat.

2. Meanwhile, use mandoline fitted with the thinnest slicing blade to slice the potatoes into very thin rounds. The potato rounds should be as close to paper thin as possible. Set aside.

3. In a small bowl mix mustard and mayonnaise. Set aside.

4. Remove skillet from oven and carefully cover bottom of it with single layer of potato slices, overlapping edges slightly. Season the potatoes with a bit of salt, pepper and thyme.

5. Use paper towels to pat dry the haddock fillets, then brush the mustard-mayo mixture over both sides of the fish. Place the haddock over the potatoes in the skillet, then arrange a second layer of potato slices over the fish, covering it entirely. Season the potatoes with salt, pepper and thyme, then mist them with cooking spray.

6. Return the skillet to the oven and bake for 14 minutes. Increase the oven to broil and cook for another 2 to 3 minutes, or until the potatoes are nicely browned. Divide the haddock into 4 pieces, being careful to leave the potatoes in place as you serve the fish.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A need-to-know for workers-in-waiting

Aspiration ammo. Four facts every job seeker should know before heading out on the hunt

SHAHEERAH KAYANI
TalentEgg.ca

While job hunting is no easy task, knowing the following four facts will help you determine how to best leverage your job seeking methods and up your chances of landing that dream job.

51 per cent of job seekers who use only one method of job-hunting gave up on their job hunt by the second month

According to jobhuntersbible.com, 51 per cent of those who use only one method of job-hunting gave up on their job hunt by the second month.

On the other hand, from the job seekers who are using at least two or more methods, only 31 per cent abandon their search by the second month.

Researchers discovered that job search success rises with each additional method that you use, but only up to four methods.

If you start using five or more job search methods, it will start to hurt your chances of landing a job.

Tip: To maximize your chances of successfully getting a job, devote your time to four proven job search outlets such as networking, LinkedIn, your school's job board and social media.

There's no denying the fact that many hires happen by way of having an 'in' with an organization. Avoid being left out of the loop by getting your name out there as often as you possibly can. ISTOCK

Most jobs aren't filled by recruiters picking your resumé online

Very few jobs are actually filled by employers or recruiters finding job seekers who posted their resumé on a job board or resumé database.

These databases scan hundreds of resumés for key words, and it next to impossible to make your resumé stand out in this way.

Tip: Instead of posting your resumé on several job boards, a much more effective tactic is to email your resumé to an actual recruiter who will read it with the human eye.

80 per cent of all positions are filled without employer advertising

Employers don't advertise many jobs because it saves time, energy and money during the whole hiring process. There's little need to advertise a job when an employer can simply hire people that they know, or get reliable references, or hire people who actually reach out to them directly.

Tip: Make sure you are always making valuable connections and keeping in touch, whether it's with your professors, past employers or recruiters working at your companies of interest.

Try following up with and contacting recruiters by introducing yourself, outlining your career aspirations and asking for an informational interview.

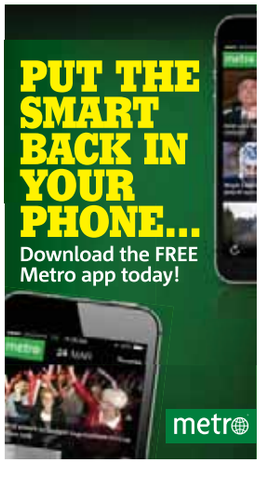
Reach out to your school's alumni network and start a friendly chat with a fellow grad in your field of interest to learn more about how they transitioned into the workplace. After all, they were once in the same position as you and will be able to give you sound advice.

TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Tell me on a Sunday please

There's an ideal time to send that email:

- If you are going to be emailing your resumé or reaching out to a recruiter, the best time to email them is on a Sunday or early in the morning.
- As not too many messages come in on Sunday, yours will have a higher chance of getting read.
- According to Alex Moore, CEO of Baydin (an email management service), emails sent between 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. are about three times more likely to be opened than emails sent at 4 p.m. Most employers check their emails in the morning, so make sure yours is right at the top of the pile.



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NAIT's Computer Training Centre offers a range of information technology learning opportunities. From introductory training to advanced courses, they are designed to help you stay on the cutting edge.

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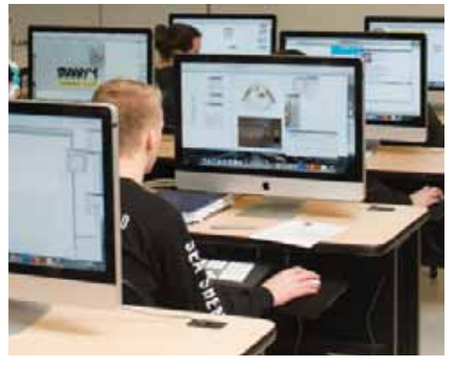
The Computer Training Centre's summer certificates are short, part-time courses that allow you to earn a certificate in five weeks or less. Certificates include Apple iPhone or Android Development, Core Networking, Digital Imaging, Office Applications and Office Accounting.



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All courses listed are during the day.

CODE	COURSE TITLE	DAY	DATE	FEE
CCTB808	**APPLE IOS IPHONE/IPAD MOBILE DEVELOPER CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 15-30**	**$2,595**
CCTB711	APPLE IOS IPHONE/IPAD MOBILE: LEVEL I	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$475
CCTB712	APPLE IOS IPHONE/IPAD MOBILE: LEVEL II	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$475
CCTB713	APPLE IOS IPHONE/IPAD MOBILE: LEVEL III	M, T	JUL 21, 22	$500
CCTB714	APPLE IOS IPHONE/IPAD MOBILE: LEVEL IV	W, TH	JUL 23, 24	$500
CCTB715	APPLE IOS IPHONE/IPAD MOBILE: LEVEL V	F, M	JUL 25, 28	$525
CCTB716	APPLE IOS IPHONE/IPAD MOBILE: LEVEL VI	T, W	JUL 29, 30	$525
CCTP801	**ANDROID MOBILE DEVELOPER CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 3**	**$2,495**
CCTP101	ANDROID/JAVA PROGRAMMING LOGIC	TH, F	JUL 3, 4	$425
CCTP102	ANDROID/JAVA PROGRAMMING FUNDAMENTALS	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$425
CCTP121	ANDROID GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACES	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$450
CCTP122	ANDROID STORAGE AND WEB APPLICATIONS	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$475
CCTP123	ANDROID HARDWARE, MULTIMEDIA, AND GRAPHICS/ANIMATIONS	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$500
CCTP129	ANDROID PROJECT	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$525
CCTM846	**CORE NETWORKING CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 7-22**	**$1,995**
CCTM114	DATA COMMUNICATIONS	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$375
CCTM170	NETWORK FUNDAMENTALS	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$375
CCTM270	NETWORK IMPLEMENTATION	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$400
CCTM116	NETWORK WIRING & TROUBLESHOOTING	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$400
CCTM275	NETWORK MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY FUNDAMENTAL	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$400
CCTM370	INTERNETWORK OPERATING SYSTEM AND IP DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS	M, T	JUL 21, 22	$400
CCTW800	**CSS/HTML CORE CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JULY 3**	**$1,995**
CCTW100	CSS/HTML LEVEL I	TH, F	JUL 3, 4	$400
CCTW200	CSS/HTML LEVEL II	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$425
CCTW300	CSS/HTML LEVEL III	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$450
CCTW310	WEB CONTENT, ANALYTICS AND USABILITY	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$450
CCTW320	WEB SERVER FOR DESIGNERS	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$475
CCTB811	**DATABASE REPORTING TOOLS CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 2-11**	**$1,395**
CCTB111	SQL INTRODUCTION	W, TH	JUL 2, 3	$400
CCTB106	CRYSTAL LEVEL I	F, M	JUL 4, 7	$400
CCTB206	CRYSTAL LEVEL II	T, W	JUL 8, 9	$425
CCTB130	SQL SERVER REPORTING SERVICES	TH, F	JUL 10, 11	$425
CCTD825	**DIGITAL IMAGING CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 3-16**	**$1,695**
CCTD190	DIGITAL PHOTO BASIC	TH, F	JUL 3, 4	$350
CCTD161	DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY MANAGEMENT	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$375
CCTD110	ADOBE PHOTOSHOP LEVEL I	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$350
CCTD210	ADOBE PHOTOSHOP LEVEL II	F, M	JUL 11,14	$400
CCTO811	**EXCEL POWER USER CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 11-28**	**$1,995**
CCTO140	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL I	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$250
CCTO240	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL II	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$275
CCTO340	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL III	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$350
CCTO341	MICROSOFT EXCEL - ADV FORMULAS AND FUNCTIONS	M, T	JUL 21, 22	$425
CCTO440	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL IV	W, TH	JUL 23, 24	$400
CCTO441	MICROSOFT EXCEL - BUILDING AN EXCEL APPLICATION	F, M	JUL 25, 28	$450

CCTM805	**LINUX (UNIX) CORE CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 21-30**	**$1,750**
CCTM601	CORE LINUX/UNIX LEVEL I	M,-TH	JUL 21, 24	$985
CCTM602	CORE LINUX/UNIX LEVEL II	F,M,T,W	JUL 25, 30	$985
CCTO800	**OFFICE ACCOUNTING WITH SAGE 50 ACCOUNTING CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 3**	**$2,995**
CCTO100	BOOKKEEPING LEVEL I	TH, F	JUL 3, 4	$275
CCTO200	BOOKKEEPING LEVEL II	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$300
CCTO300	BOOKKEEPING LEVEL III	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$325
CCTO110	SAGE 50 ACCOUNTING LEVEL I	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$300
CCTO210	SAGE 50 ACCOUNTING LEVEL II	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$325
CCTO130	MICROSOFT WORD LEVEL I	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$250
CCTO230	MICROSOFT WORD LEVEL II	M, T	JUL 21, 22	$275
CCTO140	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL I	W, TH	JUL 23, 24	$250
CCTO240	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL II	F, M	JUL 25, 28	$275
CCTO305	SAGE 50 ACCOUNTING LEVEL III	W, TH	AUG 6, 7	$350
CCTO511	OFFICE ACCOUNTING ASSESSMENT	F	AUG 8	$300
CCTO810	**OFFICE ACCOUNTING WITH QUICKBOOKS CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 3-8**	**$2,995**
CCTO100	BOOKKEEPING LEVEL I	TH, F	JUL 3, 4	$275
CCTO200	BOOKKEEPING LEVEL II	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$300
CCTO300	BOOKKEEPING LEVEL III	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$325
CCTO401	QUICKBOOKS LEVEL I	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$350
CCTO402	QUICKBOOKS LEVEL II	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$375
CCTO130	MICROSOFT WORD LEVEL I	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$250
CCTO230	MICROSOFT WORD LEVEL II	M, T	JUL 21, 22	$275
CCTO140	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL I	W, TH	JUL 23, 24	$250
CCTO240	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL II	F, M	JUL 25, 28	$275
CCTO403	QUICKBOOKS LEVEL III	W, TH	AUG 6, 7	$400
CCTO511	OFFICE ACCOUNTING ASSESSMENT	F	AUG 8	$300
CCTO810	**OFFICE APPLICATIONS SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 3 -AUG 1**	**$2,895**
CCTO101	WINDOWS DESKTOP OPERATING SYSTEMS	TH, F	JUL 3, 4	$275
CCTO130	MICROSOFT WORD LEVEL I	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$250
CCTO150	MICROSOFT POWERPOINT	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$250
CCTO140	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL I	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$250
CCTO170	MICROSOFT ACCESS LEVEL I	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$275
CCTD111	ADOBE ACROBAT LEVEL I	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$350
CCTO230	MICROSOFT WORD LEVEL II	M, T	JUL 21,22	$275
CCTO160	MICROSOFT OUTLOOK FOUNDATION	W, TH	JUL 23, 24	$300
CCTO240	MICROSOFT EXCEL LEVEL II	F, M	JUL 25, 28	$275
CCTO330	MICROSOFT WORD LEVEL III	T, W	JUL 29, 30	$325
CCTO501	OFFICE APPLICATIONS SPECIALIST MASTERY ASSESSMENT	TH, F	JUL 31, AUG 1	$375
CCTM830	**PC SERVICE & SUPPORT CERTIFICATE**	**M-F**	**JUL 3-24**	**$2,795**
CCTM111	WINDOWS COMMAND LINE	TH, F	JUL 3, 4	$350
CCTM119	WINDOWS OS CONCEPTS	M, T	JUL 7, 8	$400
CCTM170	NETWORK FUNDAMENTALS	W, TH	JUL 9, 10	$375
CCTM11	HARDWARE CONCEPTS, INSTALLATION & CONFIGURATION	F, M	JUL 11, 14	$400
CCTM12	PC TROUBLESHOOTING	T, W	JUL 15, 16	$425
CCTM14	WINDOWS OS SUPPORT & TROUBLESHOOTING	TH, F	JUL 17, 18	$425
CCTM218	WINDOWS 7 CONFIGURATION AND IMPLEMENTATION	M, T	JUL 21, 22	$425
CCTM16	A+ PREPARATION	W, TH	JUL 23, 24	$400

Visit nait.ca/CTC for more information. Classes start July 2. Enrol today as classes fill up fast.

Flyers forward Wayne Simmonds takes a shot on Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist during Game 6 of the Eastern Conference quarter-final series on Tuesday night in Philadelphia. Simmonds had a hat trick in the Flyers' 5-2 win that forces Game 7 on Wednesday night in New York. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Simmonds sublime as Flyers force 7

NHL. Philly forward's hat trick sends series back to Madison Square Garden one last time

Game 6

Flyers	Rangers
5	2

Wayne Simmonds scored three goals and Steve Mason stopped 34 shots to lead the Philadelphia Flyers to a 5-2 win over the New York Rangers on Tuesday night, forcing a decisive Game 7 of their Eastern Conference playoff series.

There's little time for rest, too. The Flyers and Rangers play again Wednesday night at Madison Square Garden.

Simmonds scored in the first period and twice more in the second for his first career post-season hat trick. Mason survived a busy first period and stopped 31 straight shots before Carl Hagelin scored late in the third. Mats Zuccarello also scored for New York in the final minute.

By the third, Simmonds had already helped stake the Flyers to a 4-0 lead and the outcome was a mere formality.

Erik Gustafsson also scored and Claude Giroux had an empty-netter for the Flyers, who will try for a second win in New York this series.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Sterling

Playoff boycott was on the table for players

NBA players strongly considered boycotting playoff games if commissioner Adam Silver hadn't ruled harshly against Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling.

Players' union vice-president Roger Mason Jr. says he spoke to representatives from every playoff team about the possibility of boycotting games in solidarity against any ruling that didn't include a mandate for Sterling to sell the Clippers.

The Clippers hosted the Golden State Warriors Tuesday night.

Mason says the players are very happy with Silver's decision to ban Sterling for life while urging the NBA's board of governors to compel Sterling to sell the Clippers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mike likes

"I applaud NBA commissioner Adam Silver's swift and decisive response today. He sent a powerful message that there can be zero tolerance for racism and hatred in the NBA."

NBA legend and Charlotte Bobcats owner Michael Jordan

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Wicked Strong boasts Beantown backbone

Exercise rider Kelvin Pahal takes Kentucky Derby hopeful Wicked Strong for a morning workout at Churchill Downs Tuesday in Louisville, Ky. Wicked Strong has a built-in fan base for the Kentucky Derby — the entire city of Boston. The colt named in honour of the victims of last year's Boston Marathon bombings figures to be among the favourites for Saturday's race. He's got the credentials, having impressively won the Wood Memorial at 9-1 odds. Wicked Strong is owned by a Boston-based partnership that has pledged to donate five per cent of any money won by the bay colt during the Triple Crown series to the fund set up for the bombing victims. Scan the above image with the Metro News app to view a gallery of Tuesday's events at Churchill Downs.
ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

Bulls bite the bullet with loss to Washington

NBA playoffs. Wizards get rare post-season series victory and look primed for more

The Wizards' Nene attacks the basket against Taj Gibson and Joakim Noah of the Bulls on Tuesday night in Chicago. The Wizards eliminated the Bulls with a 75-69 win in Game 5 of the first-round series. CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

John Wall finished with 24 points, Nene scored 20, and the Washington Wizards beat the Chicago Bulls 75-69 on Tuesday night to clinch their first-round series in five games.

Bradley Beal scored 17 points, and the fifth-seeded Wizards advanced in the post-season for just the third time since the 1970s. They will meet Indiana or Atlanta in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

It's a huge step for a franchise that hadn't been to the post-season since 2008.

The Wizards turned a half-time tie into a nine-point lead heading into the fourth quarter.

Chicago's comeback chances took a big hit early in the fourth when Taj Gibson crumbled to the court clutching his left ankle after he tried to block a layup by Wall with the Wizards up by six points. He had to be helped off the court and did not return.

The Bulls cut it to 70-67 on a jumper by Carlos Boozer with 3:32 left. Wall then poked the ball away from Boozer and nailed a jumper at the shot-clock buzzer. Chicago hit two free throws with 2:18 remaining to cut it back down to three, but the Wizards grabbed three offensive rebounds while whittling more than a minute off the clock before Beal threw the ball away with a minute left in the game.

Boozer missed on a drive, but the Bulls had another chance after a shot-clock violation by Washington with 22.4 seconds left. Chicago's Jimmy Butler missed a layup off the inbounds, and the Wizards caught a break after Andre Miller missed two free throws.

Beal tracked down the loose ball and hit the first free throw to make it 73-69 with 14.6 seconds left before missing the second. But again, the Wizards got the rebound. This time it was Nene, and that led to two free throws by Wall with 7.8 seconds remaining.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Cano winks off boos

Robinson Cano drove in a run and scored another in a most unwelcome return to Yankee Stadium, helping the Seattle Mariners beat New York 6-3 Tuesday night for their fourth win in five games.

Amid lusty boos from a modest crowd on a rainy night, Cano began his first game in the Bronx since joining Seattle this winter for $240 million with a wink at Yankees starter CC Sabathia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Champions League

Real Madrid topples Bayern

Sergio Ramos and Cristiano Ronaldo scored two goals apiece as Real Madrid advanced to the Champions League final by stunning title holder Bayern Munich 4-0 on Tuesday.

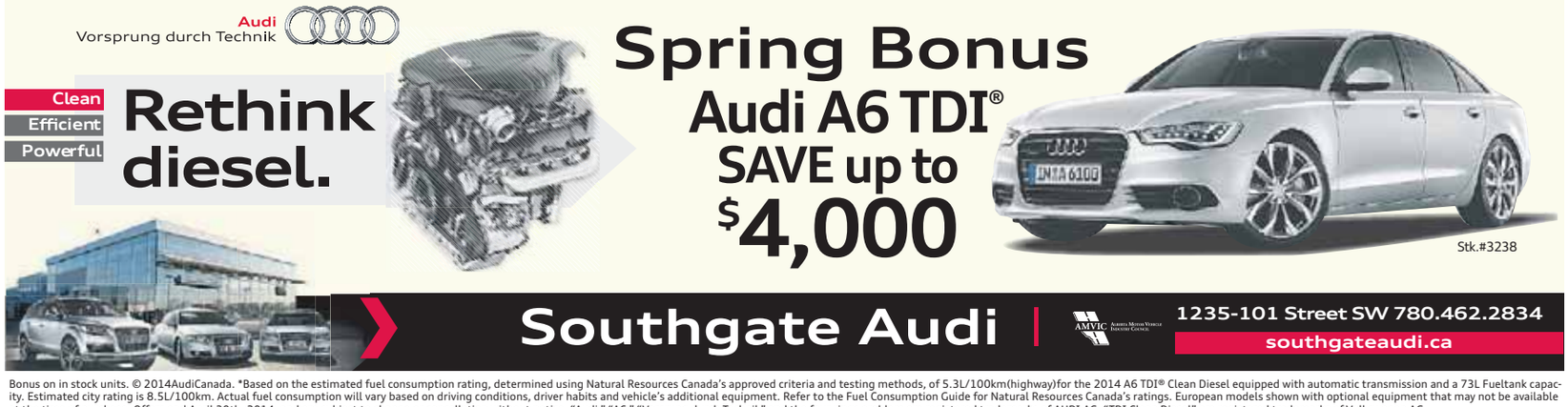
Madrid completed a 5-0 aggregate victory over the two semifinal legs and will now play either Chelsea or Atletico Madrid in the May 24 final in Lisbon.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

It's team before family for Emry

Toronto linebacker Shea Emry wants to make a good impression and show his dedication to his new team.

The former all-star said he will be skipping his brother's wedding so that he can attend the first day of training camp with the Argos. Emry said it was a tough choice but he wants to prove that he's ready to put in the work and earn the respect of his teammates. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Bonus on in stock units. © 2014AudiCanada. *Based on the estimated fuel consumption rating, determined using Natural Resources Canada's approved criteria and testing methods, of 5.3L/100km(highway)for the 2014 A6 TDI® Clean Diesel equipped with automatic transmission and a 73L Fueltank capacity. Estimated city rating is 8.5L/100km. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving conditions, driver habits and vehicle's additional equipment. Refer to the Fuel Consumption Guide for Natural Resources Canada's ratings. European models shown with optional equipment that may not be available at the time of purchase. Offers end April 30th, 2014. and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. "Audi," "A6," "Vorsrung durch Technik" and the four rings emblem are registered trademarks of AUDI AG. "TDI Clean Diesel" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG.

See that symbol? It means you can scan the photo below with your Metro News app. By the numbers! Learn more about the 2015 Honda Fit

DRIVE 5

2015 Honda Fit

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel drive compact wagon
- **Engines (hp).** 1.5-litre DOHC 14 (130)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual; continuously variable (CVT)
- **Base price (incl. destination).** $16,000

Market position

The range of small models continues to hold steady, with redesigned versions now being adorned with more standard and optional content. This tends to attract buyers who prefer all the goodies in a smaller package.

Points

- Redesigned top to bottom, but retains similar look
- New four-cylinder engine ups power while slightly improving fuel economy
- CVT saves fuel, but isn't as smooth as traditional automatic
- All-new, larger HR-V wagon based on Fit platform due to arrive early next year
- Impressive people, cargo space makes Fit tops in small wagon class

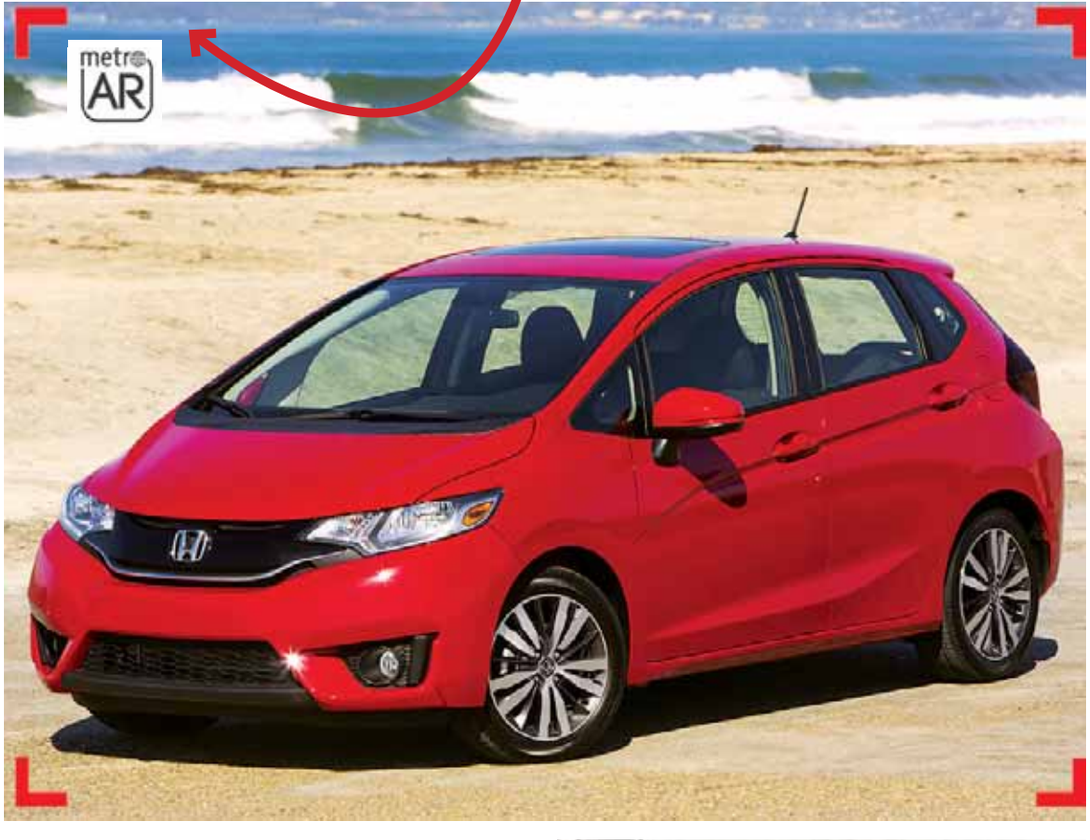
The Fit has been lauded for its fun-to-drive qualities.

Safety

Front airbags; side-impact airbags; side-curtain airbags; anti-lock brakes; traction control; stability control.

Honda's latest is a perfect Fit

PHOTOS: WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM



Compare

1 Ford Fiesta Hatchback
Base price: $16,200
Sharp styling, three-cylinder turbo option make Fiesta a popular pick.

2 Nissan Versa Note
Base price: $14,900
Low-priced wagon holds an impressive amount of stuff. Easy on gas.

3 Chevrolet Sonic Hatchback
Base price: $16,000
Junior-sized Chevy also comes in sedan version, as do other competitors.

Review. This mighty little hatchback keeps drivers thinking they're ensconced in a larger vehicle

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

"The penalty box of life."

Jeff Conrad, Honda's senior vice president and general manager, uses that phrase in reference to the Fit's small-car competitors. And when comparing the latest edition of Honda's mighty little hatchback to the rest of the field, he may well have a point.

Since the car's 2007 arrival, critics have lauded its fun-to-drive qualities and impressive carrying capacity. And with few exceptions, the newest and smallest of Hondas that are now arriving from their plant in Mexico should receive similar accolades.

The Fit sticks to a proven formula: Keep the size and weight in check; keep the body lean and spacious; and keep drivers and passengers thinking they're ensconced in a vehicle that's larger than it actually is.

Despite being physically and dimensionally similar (a tiny bit wider and longer in distance between the front and rear wheels, but slightly shorter, overall), the Fit actually looks bigger, which is partly a function of more prominent bodyside creases and fenders that bulge out around the wheel openings. Also, the wraparound headlight pods integrate with the grille and no longer extend alongside the hood. Getting the Fit underway is now the job of a new 1.5-litre four-cylinder engine that delivers 130 horsepower and 114 pound-feet of torque, compared to 117 horses and 106 pound-feet of torque for the previous 1.5.

The previous Fit set the bar pretty high, so it's no real surprise that the interior feels richer than the entry price.

Directing power to the front wheels is handled by a new six-speed manual transmission, or equally new continuously variable unit (CVT) option. Honda offers an automatic sport mode with paddle shifters, but ultimately it's no substitute for a multi-speed automatic, even if the latter tends to be slightly less fuel-efficient. Fortunately the standard six-cog manual gearbox is there to save the day.

Despite the more powerful engine, the Fit's fuel consumption is an impressive 7.0 l/100 km in the city and 5.7 on the highway, compared to 7.1/5.4 with the previous five-speed automatic transmission. The less fuel-efficient six-speed manual is rated at 8.1/6.4.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Some people won't hesitate to part you from your cash if they can see a way to do it. Don't be suspicious of everyone you meet today but remember there are bad guys in the world.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
There is no doubt you will achieve much over the next few weeks but you will achieve even more if you can persuade others to take on the boring chores, giving you more time for things that really matter.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may have to get tough with someone who has let you down. Don't go over the top and create unnecessary resentment but do make sure they realize this is the last warning they'll get.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
It's not easy being a role model but if anyone can do it you can. Be on your best behaviour today, set a good example and only do what is inspiring.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You will come in for criticism of today but if you are smart, you will ignore it completely. At best it is misguided, at worst it is sour grapes. The fact is some people envy you for being such a larger-than-life character.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Accusations will fly thick and fast today but none of the mud that is thrown will stick to you. It's not that you are whiter-than-white — you just know how to disguise what you do better than most people!

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You must not take unnecessary risks today, especially with money. Keep your cash in your pocket and don't let anyone, no matter how smooth-talking, persuade you there is easy money to be made.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Cosmic activity in your opposite sign of Taurus means you won't get far on your own over the next few days, so let partners and loved ones and work colleagues know you need and value their support.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't worry too much if you get behind in your work because there will be plenty of time to catch up later on. It would help, of course, if you were not so willing to take on other people's tasks.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Anything of a creative nature will go well for you but it will go even better if you make an effort to bring other people into your plans. Friends and loved loves want to help.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Focus on helping others today. Everyone knows you're talented but what they may not know is that you get a huge kick from doing good for others.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Socially, this will be a great day but some of your friends may be angry that you are spending more time with new acquaintances than you are with them. You can't help if you're popular. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAX: 18° MIN: 6°	MAX: 14° MIN: 10°	MAX: 12° MIN: 3°

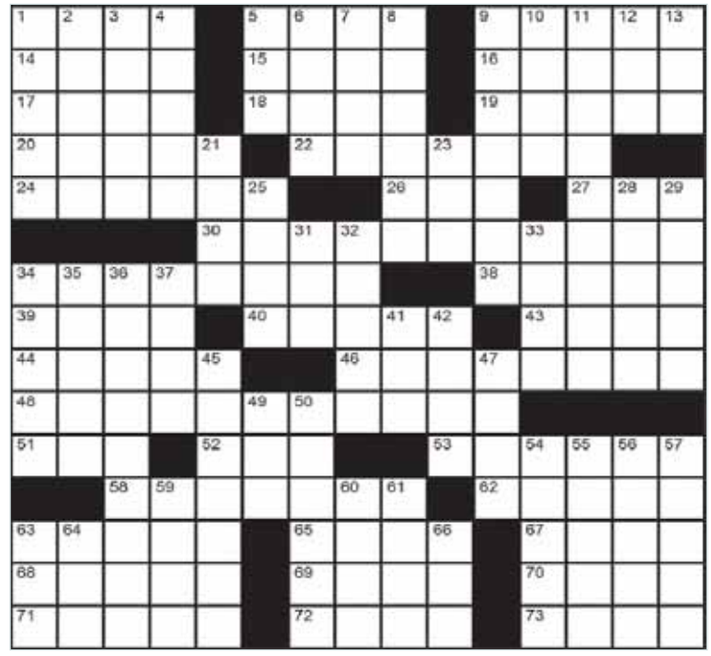
BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

MICHELE MCDOUGALL
WEATHER SPECIALIST
"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes". **WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

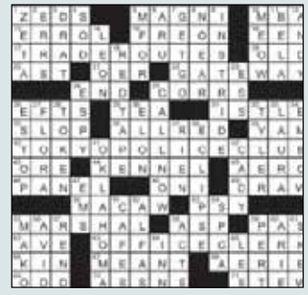
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Seasoning sort
5. Breeze
9. Swift
14. Nursemaid
15. Really rain
16. "The Jetsons" son
17. Low-cal
18. Yesteryear
19. BBQ cut
20. Ms. Ekberg
22. Motto of outstanding achievement honour the Order of Canada: Desiderantes Meliorem __ (They desire a better country)
24. Mr. Sutherland
26. Midmorning time
27. Couch break
30. "Which Way You Goin' Billy?" by Canadian band The __ __
34. Spinning-in-the-wind toy
38. Iceland band, __ Ros
39. Dosage, __ _ day
40. Steam bath
43. "The King's Speech" (2010) actress Jennifer
44. Fighting: 2 wds.
46. HST = Harmonized __ __
48. 1840s: The Great Famine led families to emigrate from Ireland to Canada by way of '__ __', so-called because of the many who died from the putrid conditions on board
51. Vertical's opp.
52. Morning grass stuff
53. Shania Twain's "Don't Be __ (You Know I Love You)"
58. Shake
62. Steeple
63. Carpentry joint part
65. Cab
67. Spare
68. Disguised, informally
69. Happy as a __
70. Barenaked Ladies title lady
71. Wants
72. __ seed oil
73. Heavy weight units [var. sp.]

Down
1. Lunchtime greenery
2. __ acid
3. Fancy tongue
4. 8th Greek letter
5. Operative
6. Fun-style negative
7. Etheric emanation
8. "__ Woman" (1990)
9. Eyes parts
10. Dawn love song
11. 1980 horror flick starring actor Leslie Nielsen: 2 wds.
12. 'Restrict' suffix
13. Tie-__
21. Rush's "Xanadu" bit: "To seek the sacred river __..."
23. Athletics authority [abbr.]
25. Performs
28. 1956 rocker: "Be-Bop-_-__"
29. Heat-resistant glassware
31. Fairy princess annoyance
32. Lavish
33. Architect, Ludwig __ van der Rohe
34. Illegally hunt
35. __ __ deep (Over one's head)
36. Region of The New World for Samuel de Champlain: 2 wds.
37. WWII RAF support gr.
41. B'__ B'rith
42. Snow-capped sights
45. Papineau, for Justin Trudeau ...and Outremont, for Thomas Mulcair
47. Approx. figures
49. Clear
50. Swiss timepiece brand
54. Disturb
55. Middle C site
56. Dick __, Jr. (Broadcasting legend)
57. Feats
59. Fine
60. Story
61. Test
63. Can
64. Opposite WSW
66. Gremlin

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	4		9			5	8	
3				2		6		4
7				5				
	7	3			4		2	
				8				
	9		3			4	1	
				9				1
5		6		1				9
	1	2			8		3	

Yesterday's Sudoku

1	6	9	8	3	5	2	7	4
4	2	7	1	9	6	5	3	8
3	8	5	4	7	2	9	6	1
7	5	1	6	4	3	8	9	2
6	4	2	9	5	8	7	1	3
8	9	3	7	2	1	6	4	5
5	7	6	3	8	4	1	2	9
2	1	4	5	6	9	3	8	7
9	3	8	2	1	7	4	5	6

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